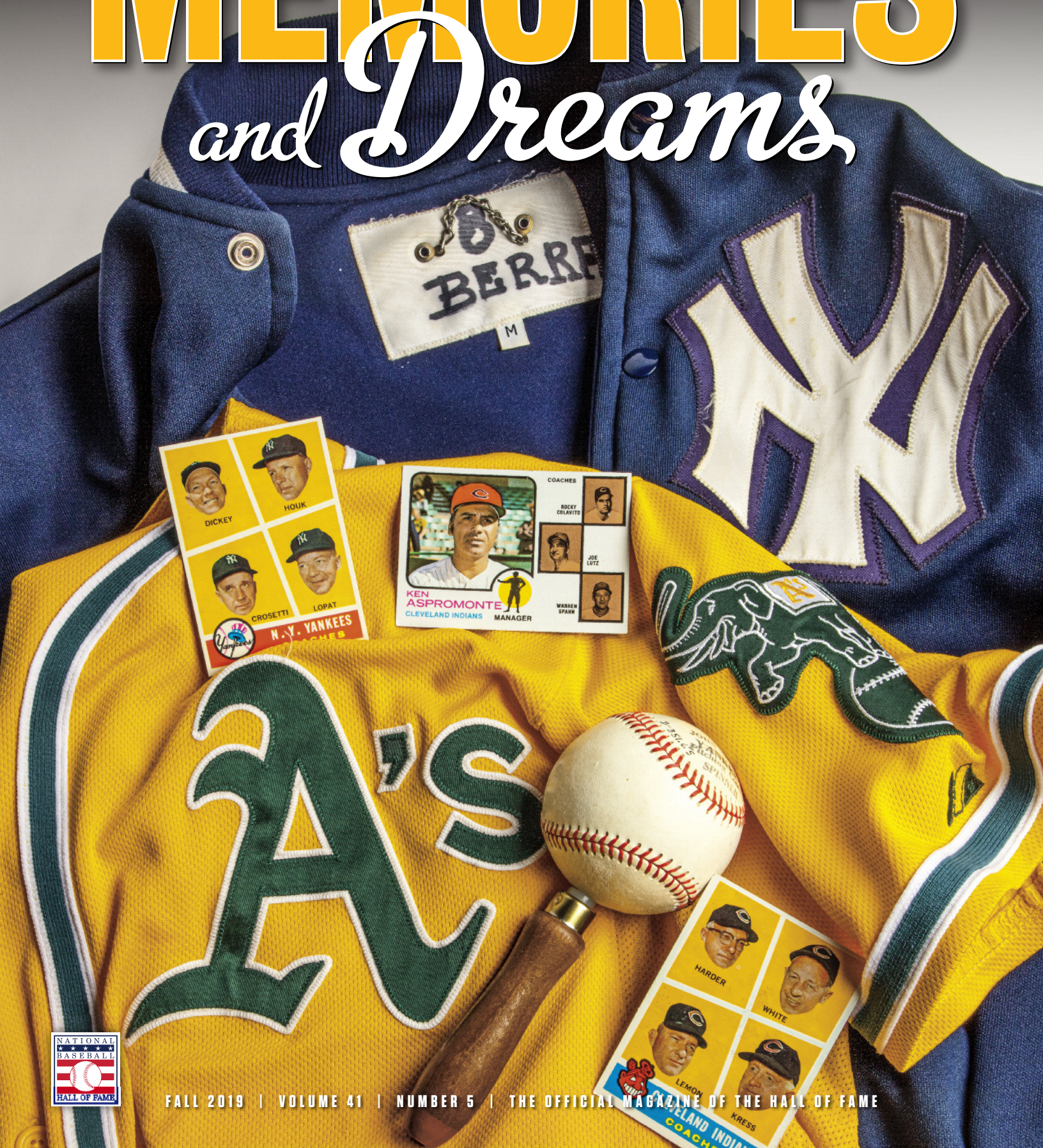


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MEMORIES and Dreams

The Official Magazine of the Hall of Fame

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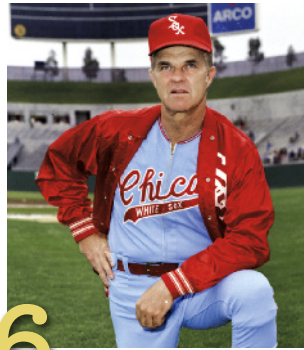
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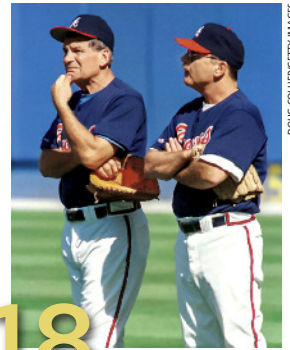
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NATIONAL BASEBALL HALL OF FAME AND MUSEUM



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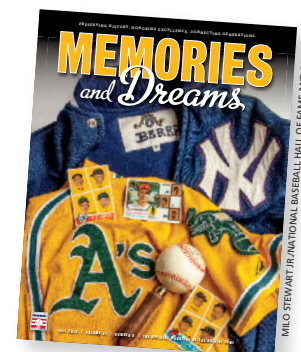
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ON THE COVER

The road to the Hall of Fame isn't a solo journey. Throughout the game's history, coaches have helped bring out the best in players and managers - often in anonymity but always appreciated. Many of their stories are told in Cooperstown. Artifacts depicted on the cover collage include:

- Yankees jacket worn by coach Yogi Berra during the 1981 season
- A's jersey worn by Justine Siegal as a coach during the fall Instructional League in 2015
- Ball spinner used by coach Johnny Sain to demonstrate pitching grips

FROM THE VICE CHAIRMAN > JOE MORGAN



Coaching, in all its forms, has always been important in baseball. It's how we pass along the knowledge of the game from one generation to the next. The coaches lead players to the big leagues.

Many coaches took a personal interest in me, and we worked and we worked and we worked. I attribute a lot of my success to coaches who themselves played in the major leagues and experienced what I was going to experience – like Nellie Fox, Bob Lillis and Eddie Kasko. They didn't just teach me how to play on the field. They also taught me how to be a professional off the field, and how to carry myself away from the ballpark.

Beginning in my first year with Houston, when I was 19 years old, I learned how to play the game from major league veterans and

coaches. Nellie Fox told me one day: "Joe, the players who stay in the big leagues the longest are the players that do the most to help their teams win." That was his way of telling me that you have to do what's best for the team, and it stuck with me throughout my career.

One of the smartest baseball people I ever knew, Gene Mauch, gave me similar advice at an All-Star Game: "The way this game works, if you do your job every day for the team, you'll look up at the end of the year and your numbers will be good." The team-first mentality resonated with me. More than anything else, advice like this is what made me play the game the way I played it.

I learned from many teammates in my early years in Houston, like Walt Bond, Joe Gaines and Lee Maye. Everybody knows me from the Reds, but those guys taught me how to play.



Joe Morgan credits Gene Mauch, a longtime big league manager who was regarded as one of the best teachers of his generation, with helping establish the team-first mentality that served Morgan so well over his career.

In Cincinnati, Ted Kluszewski was the hitting coach. Ted was a big guy, so his swing was completely different from mine. Still, he was able to work with me to help improve my approach. He also helped Johnny Bench, Pete Rose and Tony Pérez. We were all different, but he knew how to work with each individual's talent.

Kluszewski was also the first coach I knew who used video. He would cut up those big tapes so the morning after each game, players could watch their at-bats from the previous game. I was in there with him almost every day talking about my approach and my swing.

Growing up in Oakland, there was a kind man who bought equipment – balls, bats and gloves – that he took to the local park so kids like me would have the tools to play ball. Because of him, I always knew that I'd have somebody to work with and play with. He wasn't a coach in any official capacity, but he loved baseball and he enjoyed helping us young kids.

It is so important, even today, that kids have resources that give them the chance to play ball. There were a number of great players coming out of Oakland during that time – major league stars like Frank Robinson, Willie Stargell and Vada Pinson. We were all so appreciative of this man and his generosity.

Another great influence was my manager, Sparky Anderson. One day with the Reds, he called me into his office. He said, "Joe, I'm never going to give you a sign. Everything you do, you do it for the good of the team, and I'm going to just let you go play."

That put a lot more pressure on me to make sure I always played the game the right way. At the same time, he was giving me the authority to take on a role as a leader with the team.

I was the shortest guy on the field sometimes, but I was overbearing. I was always expecting perfection out of myself and my teammates. When something didn't happen, I would speak up, like a coach. That's just who I am. I would get in my teammates' faces sometimes, all 5-foot-7 of me, but they respected me for it. They knew I cared about the team first and my numbers second, and to me, that was the highest praise I could ever receive.

I hope that all of the coaches and teammates from my career know that I wouldn't be in the Hall of Fame without the lessons they taught me. 🍌



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For more information, please visit TheGreatCourses.com/5BHOE.

World Series gala

The excitement of the Fall Classic once again returns to Cooperstown. Enjoy Game 4 of the 2019 World Series in the Hall of Fame's recently renovated Grandstand Theater on Saturday, Oct. 26, in one of the year's most popular annual family events. The evening is sure to entertain with refreshments, trivia, raffles, prizes and, of course, a live broadcast of Game 4 of the Fall Classic.

Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for children under 12. Participants in the Hall of Fame's Membership Program can reserve their tickets immediately by calling (607) 547-0397. Any remaining tickets will be available to non-members starting Monday, Oct. 21.

Hall of Fame Halloween

With Central New York's fall in beautiful full color, a popular stop-off for trick-or-treaters is always the Hall of Fame. Children in costume and their parents/guardians receive free admission from 3:30-5 p.m. on Thursday, Oct. 31 – and the trick-or-treaters can experience an adventure through the Museum.

Overnights at the Museum return

Be one of the lucky few to spend a night with baseball's legends. Children ages 7-12 can sleep in the Hall of Fame Gallery among the plaques honoring Babe Ruth, Ted Williams,

STAFF SELECTIONS



Name: Jim Gates

Position: Librarian

Hall of Fame Experience:
Debuted July 1, 1995

Hometown: Too many to count; I grew up in a Navy family and moved around quite a bit.

Favorite Museum Artifact: Brooks Robinson's glove from 1970 World Series

Memorable Museum Moment:
There have been so many, but providing a private Library tour to former President Bill Clinton and New York Senator Hillary Clinton does stand out.

Jackie Robinson and the rest of baseball's greats. The evening includes all-access to the Museum's public areas after-hours, special hands-on programs, a late-night snack and a movie in the Bullpen Theater.

Scheduled dates currently include Nov. 2-3. Check baseballhall.org/visit/extra-innings for more information, or book your experience today by calling (607) 547-0329.

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PUT ME IN, COACH

HALL OF FAMERS REMEMBER THE UNSUNG HEROES WHO HELPED THEM FULFILL THEIR DESTINY.

BY BILL FRANCIS

The Hall of Fame has 232 former big league players among its 329 elected members. And every last one will credit the work of coaches with helping them in their journey to Cooperstown.

Unsung and often overlooked, baseball coaches at both the amateur and professional levels can spend countless days with a player, whether it be an unpolished prospect or an established star, with only the hope of improving that particular student's game.

Since players rarely excel on raw athletic ability alone, it is the role of a coach to instruct not only in the fundamentals of the game but harness the potential toward future success. And sometimes it can be what a coach does off the field that matters most.

When longtime California Angels coach Jimmie Reese – who roomed with Babe Ruth in the early 1930s – passed away in 1994 at the age of 92, the outpouring of sympathy by his players was his legacy.

“I spent seven years with him and he was a really good friend,” said Angels pitcher Kirk McCaskill. “He’s one guy that you can truly say that in his time he bettered other people’s lives by his just being there.”

“When you name a son after someone,” said Hall of Famer Nolan Ryan at the time, referring to his son Reese, “I think it’s pretty obvious how you feel about them.”

During the 2019 Hall of Fame Induction Weekend, a number of former players with bronze plaques in Cooperstown shared memories of their favorite coaches.

“I give a lot of credit to my coaches with the Reds,” said Hall of Fame catcher Johnny Bench, a 14-time All-Star and 10-time Gold Glove winner. “We had Alex Grammas and George Scherger and Vern Benson and Larry Shepard and Ted Kluszewski and Russ Nixon – they’re more like psychologists. They don’t get enough credit. And the hours. My gosh! Ever heard of Scotty Breden? He threw batting practice for four hours a day, it seemed like.

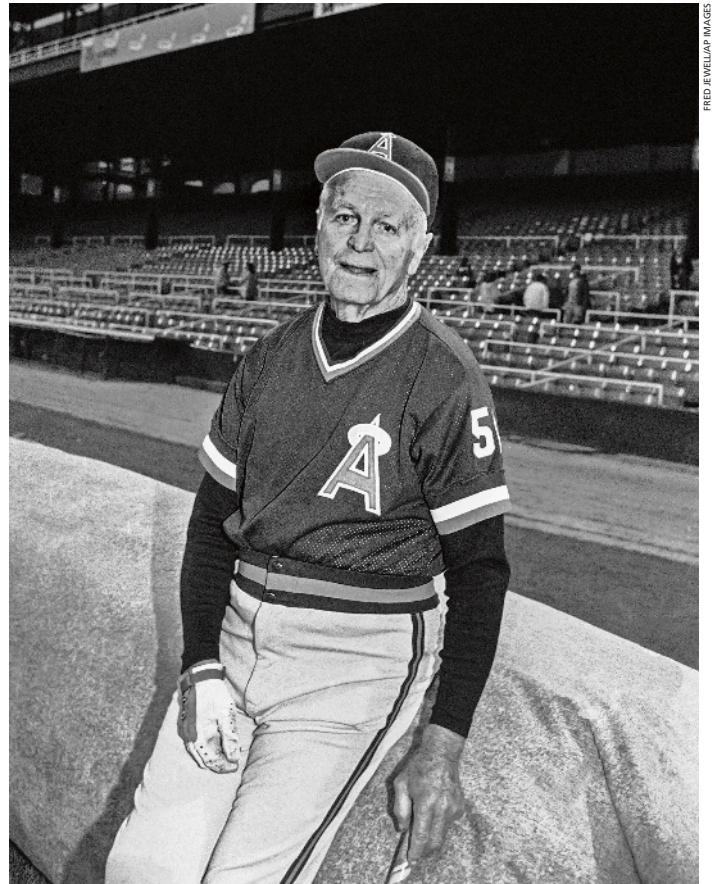
“I think the psychology part of it is the most important thing. Being on an even keel and just a little support every now and then, another reminder about something that you should be doing. Or you have an opportunity to go to them and say, ‘Hey, what does this look like?’ and being able to just talk to them and have that moment with them. I think

those are the moments they never get enough credit for.

“It’s their life, too,” Bench said. “They want to be around baseball. And they love the game of baseball. I admire them so much. They are just amazing people. They’ve dedicated their lives. And baseball is their life.”

Hall of Fame pitcher John Smoltz, with 213 wins and 154 saves, zeroed in on one name when asked about the role coaching played in his career.

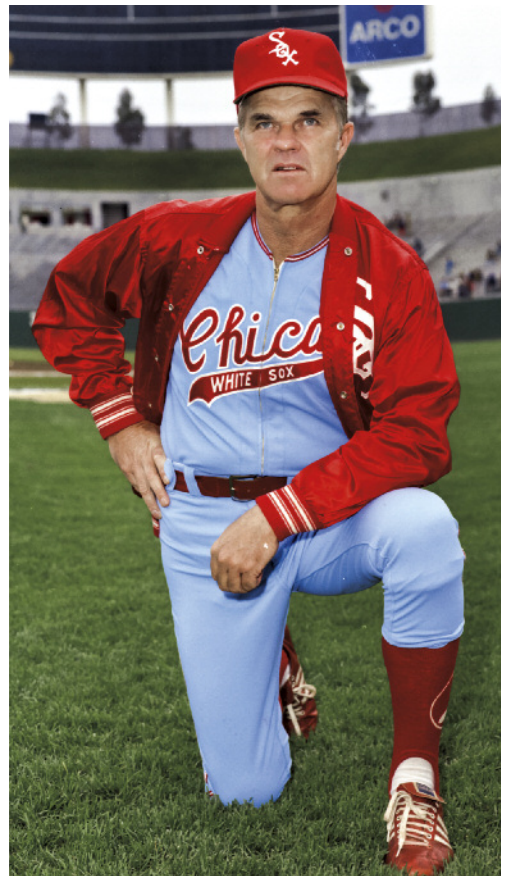
“He’s no longer with us, but my guy growing up was Carl Wagner,” Smoltz said. “He coached for over 50 years in youth baseball, and without



A one-time teammate of Babe Ruth with the Yankees, Jimmie Reese made a second career out of coaching, including 22 seasons with the California Angels. He was still on staff when he passed away in 1994 at age 92, and one year later, the Angels retired his No. 50.



Top: Boston Red Sox hitting coach Walt Hriniaik (left) talks with outfielder Ellis Burks during a 1988 contest. Hriniaik, who spent 12 seasons in Boston and another seven with the Chicago White Sox, was considered one of the most influential hitting coaches of his time. **Bottom:** Both Alex Grammas (left) and Ted Kluszewski (center) were integral members of the Cincinnati Reds' coaching staff of the 1970s. The Big Red Machine won four National League pennants and two World Series titles between 1970-76. **Bottom Right:** Johnny Sain became a highly respected pitching coach after winning 139 games over 11 seasons with the Braves, Yankees and Athletics.





Marv Grissom (left) – shown here with Gary Peters (43) and Rocky Colavito (18) while coaching with the White Sox in 1967 – had a major league pitching career that spanned 10 seasons in the 1940s and '50s before he became a pitching coach with the White Sox, Twins, Angels and Cubs.

his dedication and just the way he loved the game, I wouldn't be here. He was like my second dad. When I think about baseball, I think about him.

"I moved to Lansing (Mich.) and started playing baseball. He was a big part of my upbringing. We just played within the state of Michigan. Played in a ton of tournaments. We were called the Fire Fighters because that's where Carl had worked. We were really good. We were winning a lot of different tournaments and that's where I kind of showcased. High school baseball wasn't that big back then.

"The biggest thing is, today, coaches have to be more of a psychologist than they have to teach the fundamentals of the game," Smoltz added. "I learned something from each and every coach that I was around. There's always a different perspective that someone can add to helping you become better. There were no clinics and there were no camps, for the most part, when I was growing up. I was self-taught. I couldn't wait to get to pro ball to get that kind of coaching. Coaches in my life, certainly, helped refine my desire to get the perfect mechanics."

Another Hall of Fame pitcher, Bert Blyleven, recalled some of the coaches who helped lead him to 287 big league wins.

"I can go back to my Little League coach, Mr. Price, who turned me from a catcher to a pitcher. He was a fireman and donated his time to being a Little League coach," Blyleven said. "From my high school coach, who gave me the ball every Tuesday and Friday and let me pitch, and all the minor league coaches, all the major league coaches. They're people who love the game of baseball and are not really appreciated as much as they should be. They put in more time than players do.

"I had great pitching coaches. Marv Grissom was with the Twins in 1970, my rookie year, and I threw across my body really bad. He actually put a folding chair down and I had to step to the left of that folding chair," recalled the right-handed Blyleven. "That really changed my delivery to where my body went toward home plate rather than recoiling. I did ask him at one time, 'What if I land on that folding chair with my left foot?' He said, 'Well, you'll break your neck, won't you.' So that was the way for him to get me to open up and utilize the lower part of my body and my pitching delivery."

According to Hall of Fame third baseman Wade Boggs, a winner of five American League batting titles: "The success of an individual is how well he's coached.

"I had the great fortune to have my father coach me when I was in Little League and Senior League and all of that stuff. I learned how to play the game from him," Boggs said.

"Walt Hriniak was probably one of the best hitting coaches of all time. Walt was sort of like your corner guy in boxing in that he's always there and he knows how to get in your head. That was the great thing about Walt. Not that I needed to be driven, but he knew what buttons to push. He wouldn't take, he called it 'slouching.' He wouldn't take 'slouching' for a second."

For Ferguson Jenkins, a Cubs mound mainstay who ended his career with 284 victories, it was pitching coach Cal McLish who put him on the road to Cooperstown.

"I played winter ball for two years in Puerto Rico, 1963 and '64, and I developed a pretty good slider under the tutelage of Cal McLish. I think that pitch probably got me to the big leagues quicker than any other aspect of learning how to play the game the right way," Jenkins said. "And when I joined the Cubs in 1966, I had Robin Roberts as a teammate and coach. He taught me how to set hitters up and what to anticipate with some of the good hitters who were in the National League back then – from Hank Aaron and Willie Mays to Willie McCovey and Roberto Clemente. There were so many good hitters during the 1960s that if you didn't know how to approach them as a pitcher, you were going to lose the battle.

"As an amateur, Gene Dziadura was my mentor. He was originally signed by the Cubs back in the mid-'50s. He saw me play as a [young teenager] and wanted to know why I didn't want to pitch. I told him I'd rather play first base, where you get to hit and be on the field. As a pitcher, you don't pitch every day. But he convinced me that pitching might be the opportunity for me to become a professional athlete. Two years later, when I was 16, I really developed as a pitcher. Two years after that, I signed a pro contract with the Phillies."

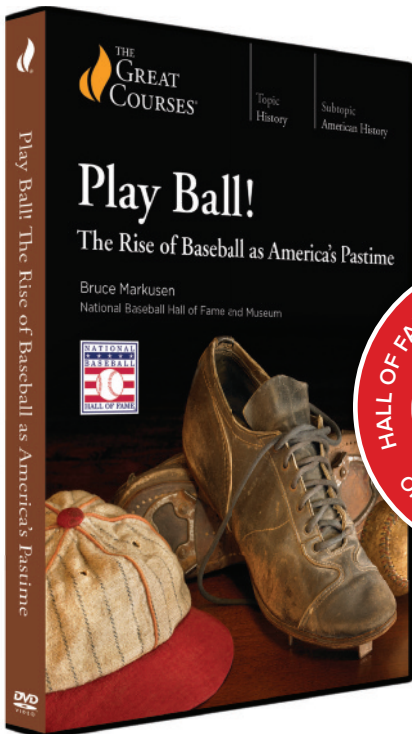
Southpaw Randy Johnson, with his intimidating 6-foot-10 frame, finished his career with 303 wins and 4,875 strikeouts. But success didn't come early for the future Hall of Famer.

"It's been well documented when I was playing baseball that Nolan Ryan and Tom House, who wasn't even my pitching coach, had a one-day session with me on my mechanics when I was younger, in 1992, when they were both with the Texas Rangers. That became the most impactful coaching that I got," Johnson said. "Early on, I just think that people took the time. My dad took the time. He was a police officer and he took the time to play catch with me. That meant just as much as anybody in a baseball uniform. But it was my dad really motivating me to be the best at what I did, however good that was going to be, and to get the most out of it."

For Goose Gossage, the big league coach who changed his game was longtime pitching mentor Johnny Sain. But for every coach who helped a future Hall of Famer, there were hundreds of others who worked to make thousands of players the best they could be.

"Back in our day, the coaches told it like it was and helped you understand how to get better," Gossage said. "They wanted to pass along the knowledge of what it takes to be a major leaguer. That's something you can't get from any computer." ❶

Bill Francis is the senior research and writing specialist at the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum.



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COACH ACCOMMODATIONS

SOME OF THE GAME'S EARLIEST STARS TRANSITIONED INTO COACHING BEFORE THE HALL OF FAME EVEN OPENED.

BY MATT KELLY

M

ike Mussina returned to the spotlight this summer with his induction to the National Baseball Hall of Fame, but his retirement as a player in 2008 only meant he traded one role for another.

After hanging up his spikes, Mussina went back to his hometown of Montoursville, Pa., to serve as an assistant coach

for the Montoursville Area High School baseball team and the head coach of its boys' basketball team.

"I've had a lot of coaches from college through professional baseball," Mussina told a local TV affiliate this past January, "but you take a piece of them and try to mold together what they show you, what they try to tell you and make it part of what you do."

Mussina learned from some of the best, pitching under the watch of respected managers like Johnny Oates, Davey Johnson and Joe Torre. But trying to help others achieve that same greatness is a challenge of its own.

Babe Ruth probably wanted to manage as much as any early Hall of Famer after his playing days were over. The Bambino's desire to join his player/skipper contemporaries like Ty Cobb, Rogers Hornsby and Tris Speaker was known throughout the major leagues, but his outsized personality never fit the bill for Yankees front office leaders Jacob Ruppert and Ed Barrow, who preferred more no-nonsense types for the manager role.

Ruth was in attendance at Brooklyn's Ebbets Field on June 15, 1938 (New York's first-ever big league night game), when the Reds' Johnny Vander Meer twirled the second of his back-to-back no-hitters against the

Dodgers. It was the lowest point of a tough season for Brooklyn's "Bums," but the presence of Ruth – two years removed from his election to the Hall's first class – lifted the mood of many in the crowd.

"Vander Meer's feat was front-page news, but earlier in the evening the biggest excitement in the ballpark was the arrival of Babe," Ruth's biographer Robert Creamer would write.

Dodgers executive vice president Larry MacPhail decided to offer the legendary slugger a coaching gig for the rest of the season,

and Ruth's addition undoubtedly boosted the club's attendance down the stretch. But when Brooklyn fired manager Burleigh Grimes at year's end, the team handed the job to skipper-in-waiting Leo Durocher. It was clear, then, that Ruth's appointment was little more than a publicity grab. He never came close to managing again.

Honus Wagner, another member of the Hall's first class, tried the briefest look at managing, winning just one of his five games as the Pirates' skipper in 1917. Instead, Wagner found his second wind as Pittsburgh's hitting coach, filling the role from 1933-51.

Wagner's famous quote, "There ain't much to being a ballplayer, if you're a ballplayer," might not have suggested an ability to connect, but in reality he was ripe

for the role. Under Wagner's tutelage, Arky Vaughan ascended from a shaky-handed youngster to one of the National League's best defensive shortstops.

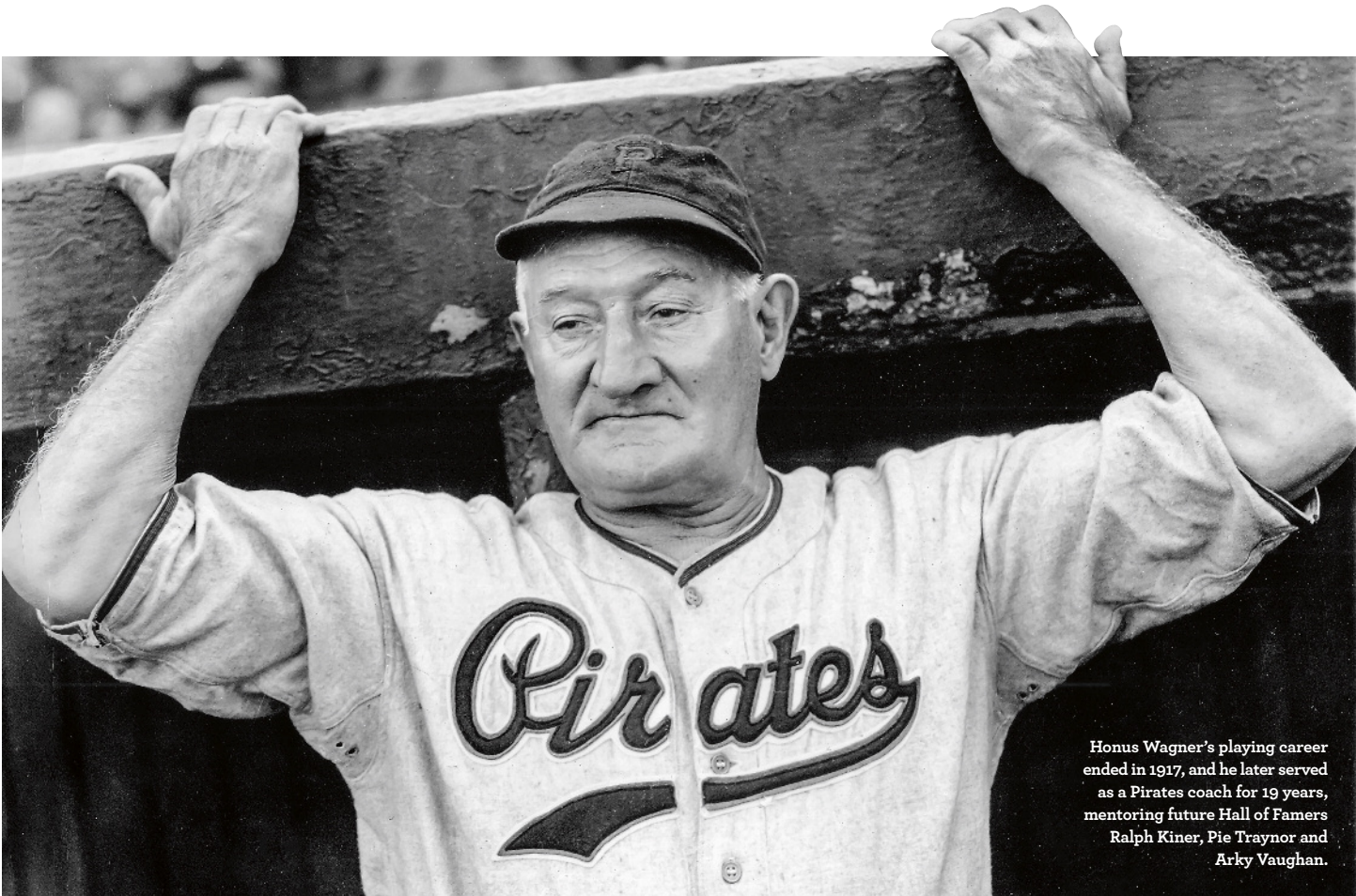
"They said if I couldn't make a shortstop out of Arky Vaughan, nobody could," Wagner once said. "Of all the players I tried to help, he's the best and the one that went the farthest."

Fellow Hall of Famers Ralph Kiner and Pie Traynor also graduated from the classroom of "The Flying Dutchman." Wagner was drawn toward



NATIONAL BASEBALL HALL OF FAME AND MUSEUM

Above: Babe Ruth longed for the opportunity to manage in the big leagues and signed on as a coach with the Brooklyn Dodgers in 1938. But when the Dodgers hired a new manager at season's end, they chose Leo Durocher over Ruth. The Bambino would never manage in the majors.



Honus Wagner's playing career ended in 1917, and he later served as a Pirates coach for 19 years, mentoring future Hall of Famers Ralph Kiner, Pie Traynor and Arky Vaughan.



After his big league career ended in 1930, George Sisler scouted for the Browns, Dodgers and Pirates. In this 1947 photo, he talks with Dodgers players (from left) Howie Schultz, Ed Stevens, Jackie Robinson and Tom Brown.



NATIONAL BASEBALL HALL OF FAME AND MUSEUM

Hall of Famer Bill Dickey (right) played for the Yankees for 17 seasons en route to the Hall of Fame. When his career ended after the 1946 season, Dickey became a mentor to the next Yankees Hall of Fame catcher: Yogi Berra.

mentoring younger players throughout his twilight years, even serving as a baseball and basketball coach at Carnegie Institute of Technology.

George Sisler took the mantle from Wagner and Cobb as the sport's next preternatural hitter, but he wouldn't have broken in without the help of Branch Rickey, who offered Sisler a spot on the University of Michigan's baseball club and, later, the St. Louis Browns. Once Sisler's career wrapped up, Rickey hired him again to pass on his knowledge as a scout and coach for the Dodgers. Sisler was among those who scouted Jackie Robinson for Rickey, and when Robinson attended the Dodgers' training camp in 1947, it was Sisler who gave him a crash-course fielding lesson at first base.

Sisler followed Rickey to the Pirates in 1951, where he taught Bill Mazeroski how to sit on a curveball and suggested that Roberto Clemente switch to a heavier bat, which helped Clemente win his first batting title in '61.

Pirates shortstop Dick Groat, the 1960 NL batting champion (.325) and league MVP, said of Sisler: "I give him all the credit in the world for any success I had as a hitter."

Groat, Clemente and the Pirates edged past Yogi Berra's Yankees in 1960 in one of the classic World Series, the 11th Fall Classic of Berra's career. But it's hard to envision Berra's immense success without Bill Dickey, who the Yankees hired following the 1948 season to groom their bat-first catcher. Already on the verge of his own election to the Hall, the Yankees' first great catcher poured his energy into molding Berra into the franchise's next star backstop, drilling him repeatedly on defensive fundamentals.

"Bill was learning me all his experience," Berra would say in his singular style. "I always say I owe everything I did in baseball to Bill Dickey." On July 22, 1972, the Yankees retired the No. 8 that Dickey and Berra shared; by then, Berra was already "learning his experience" to others as manager of the Mets. A pair of future managers – Jim Fregosi and Bud Harrelson – were on Berra's squad, and the coaching wheel kept spinning forward. 🍷

Matt Kelly is a freelance writer from Brooklyn, N.Y.

HIT DOCTORS

HALL OF FAMERS AND THEIR HITTING COACHES HAVE CHANGED THE WAY BATTERS APPROACH THE GAME.

BY STEVE BUCKLEY

It was February 1982, and the Boston Red Sox were about to begin Spring Training in Winter Haven, Fla.

The big names in camp included Carl Yastrzemski, the celebrated Captain Carl, by then in the last years of his Hall of Fame-bound career. The Sox also had Jim Rice, a slugging outfielder in his prime, and Dennis Eckersley, known as much for his panache as for his pitching. The manager was Ralph Houk, the fiery 62-year-old World War II hero who had piloted the Yankees to three American League pennants and two World Series championships in the early 1960s.

That the Red Sox also had a 23-year-old third baseman named Wade Boggs in big league camp wasn't a big story. Nor was it a big deal that the returning bullpen coach was a guy named Walter Hriniaik, a 38-year-old Massachusetts native who had played parts of two seasons in the big leagues with the Atlanta Braves and San Diego Padres, hitting .253. But it was during Spring Training in 1982 that Boggs, the rookie, and Hriniaik, the bullpen coach, formed a bond that would alter the careers of both men, and, indeed, make baseball history.

And it all started with a Grapefruit League game against the Detroit Tigers at Joker Marchant Stadium in nearby Lakeland.

"The Tigers had this left-hander on the

mound, I wish I could remember his name," Hriniaik said. "He had blond hair is what I remember.

"He threw a fastball inside to Boggs, who's a lefty hitter of course, and he lined it between second and third for a single. And I thought to myself, people don't know how special that is, getting the ball inside and being able to use

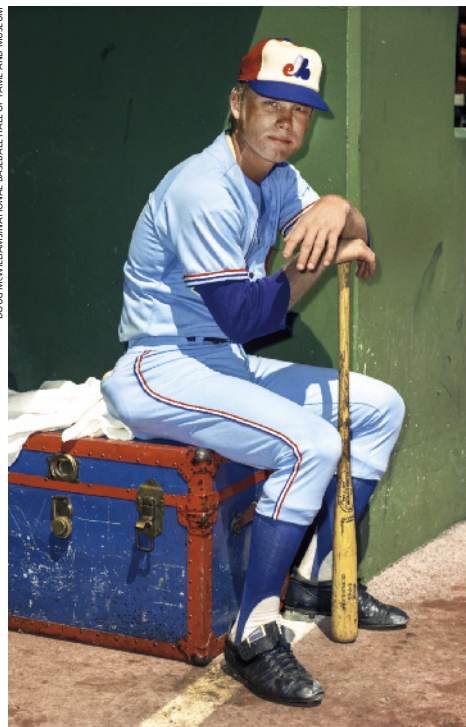
the hands the correct way and getting a single to left field. That was my first impression of Wade Boggs."

Shortly thereafter – nobody's exactly sure of the timeline – Boggs was stepping into the batting cage back in Winter Haven when Hriniaik approached him and said, "Let me tell you one thing: Few dare to be great."

And thus began one of the best, and best-known, hitter/hitting coach relationships the game has ever seen.

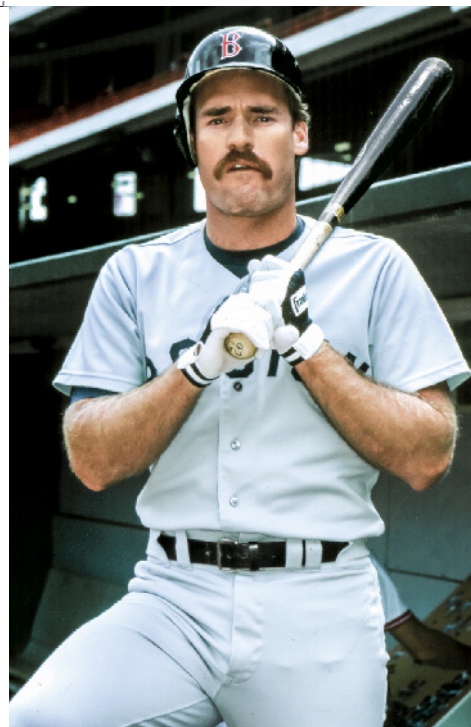
Though it'd be overstating things to suggest Boggs wouldn't have won five batting titles, amassed 3,010 career hits and become a first-ballot Hall of Famer without Hriniaik's tutelage, what can't be denied is this: Outside of Boggs himself, nobody knew more about his swing than Hriniaik. And even more so than Boggs, nobody could pick out the mistakes and the flaws the way Hriniaik could.

Great hitting coaches are teachers, but they also possess an in-the-brain video of a hitter at his best, showing legs, arms and torso working



Left: Walt Hriniaik played two big league seasons with the Braves and Padres and finished his career with the Expos organization in 1973. But his post-playing career brought him acclaim as one of the best hitting coaches in the game.

Right: Wade Boggs hit .328 with a .415 on-base percentage in 18 big league seasons and credits Hriniaik with helping him fine-tune his swing.





Charley Lau (left) helped George Brett (right) become one of the game's best hitters when he identified Brett's strengths at the plate in his first years with the Royals.

together in perfect hardball harmony. That way, when something is off in real time, even by a fraction, the hitting coach sees it and helps fix it.

Great hitters love their great hitting coaches. Jim Thome, who slugged 612 home runs in his Hall of Fame career, was a loyal, ever-listening student of Charlie Manuel during their years together on the Cleveland Indians. Manuel, who first came to the Indians in 1988 when he was hired by then-manager Doc Edwards, returned to the team as Thome was coming into his own as a big leaguer. Manuel later managed the Indians and Phillies, and this past August came out of semi-retirement to serve as the Phils' hitting coach.

"When I first came in contact with Charlie, I was in Florida with the Gulf Coast League," Thome said. "He just had this way about him that made you feel very comfortable. He had this kind of electric personality – with everybody.

"It was truly remarkable, because he has this deep southern drawl and this sense of humor, but when you were with him one on one, he related just to you. I watched it over the years and continue to watch it. I've always made it very clear how much he meant to my career. Without Charlie Manuel, I would not be where I'm at."

And then there's George Brett, the Hall of Fame third baseman for the Kansas City Royals.

He had an intense working relationship in his early years with the late Charley Lau, considered by many to be the greatest hitting coach in modern history. During his Hall of Fame induction speech in 1999, Brett told a story from around the All-Star break in 1974, when he was a struggling rookie with the Royals.

As Brett recounted: "Charley put his arm around me and he said, 'George, I think you've got a chance to hit, but you're going to have to change a few things.' And I said, 'Well, what do you have in mind?' And he said, 'Well, tell you what. We have two days off at the All-Star break, we have practice at 5 o'clock on Wednesday, and then we're going to jump on a plane and fly to Baltimore. Why don't you meet me at the stadium at 2 o'clock and we'll sit down and we'll discuss it, and we'll try to figure out a philosophy and a theory that will work for you.'"

Lau showed Brett video of players he helped in the past, along with video of players whose swings the rookie might consider studying. And then came the batting practice. Tons of it.

"I think, for as long as Charley Lau was our hitting coach, he and I would have extra batting practice, 3 o'clock on the road, 4 o'clock at home," Brett said that day in Cooperstown. "Some days it was for five swings, 10 swings,

just to make sure you didn't lose anything from the day before. And some days it might have been for 15-20 minutes trying to find out what's happened from the night before."

It so happened that Hrinik had Lau as his manager in 1968 when he was playing for the Braves' Double-A Shreveport club in the Texas League. Lau's teaching helped get Hrinik, who hit .313 that season, to the big leagues. When he joined the Red Sox years later as a coach, he was not, it should be pointed out, the team's "hitting coach."

Though the team had no official hitting coach at the time, the duties fell under the purview of first base coach Johnny Pesky. But Boggs had always been a lefty hitter who took the ball the other way, and Hrinik, the bullpen coach, knew that. When he saw Boggs take the blond guy's fastball the other way that day in Lakeland, he knew they'd get along famously.

"He had heard about my hitting style, which was Charley Lau, inside-out, that kind of thing," Boggs said. "And probably one of the biggest things that struck me about Walter my rookie year in Spring Training was that day during batting practice. I would sort of follow Yaz every morning. I went in there one morning, probably the middle of March, and Yaz walks

out of the cage and I walk in, and Walter walks up to me ...”

“Let me tell you one thing: Few dare to be great,” Boggs recalled him saying.

“What I was telling him is that it’s very difficult to be great,” said Hriniak, who turned 76 in May and is now retired and living north of Boston. “If you’re gonna hit .360 like he did, you have to be great to hit .360 again. And a lot of people can’t handle that. It’s just too difficult. Playing the game is hard enough as it is, but to be your best – to be your best every day – takes a tough guy, and a lot of guys don’t like to talk about it like this, and I’m going to get into trouble for saying this, because everybody likes to say they do the best they can, but a lot of guys don’t, myself included when I played. So I know how difficult it is to try to be great.”

Looking back on the time he spent working with Boggs, Hriniak said: “A lot of people tell me I really helped him. I didn’t do anything for Wade Boggs. I just pointed out what he did good and tried to make sure his feet were the same way, and constantly repeating those things. I didn’t change a thing with him.”

But, said Boggs, that’s precisely why Hriniak was such a good hitting coach.

“Day in and day out, we would go over the mental aspects of the game – who we were facing, have a game plan, and stick to that game plan and not deviate from that,” Boggs said. “After the game, Walt would sort of leave it alone and the next day when I would come in, around 12:30 for a night game, he was right there and he was on me.

“And his vision of my swing was so finite that even the slightest little miscue Walter could pick it up,” Boggs said. “And that was the greatest thing because when he watched me from the side, he’d say, ‘You’re not giving your right leg enough back.’ When he was coaching first base, I would always look down to him and if I was doing that, he would tap his right knee and that was my little cue to think, ‘OK, I gotta get my right knee working again; it’s sort of going down on me.’”

The added challenge facing both men was that they were working for the Red Sox at a time when *The Greatest Hitter That Ever Lived* – that being Ted Williams – was a regular presence during Spring Training. Williams was a true scientist of hitting (even writing a book on it, titled, naturally, “*The Science of Hitting*”),

MILO STEWART JR./NATIONAL BASEBALL HALL OF FAME AND MUSEUM



During his 1999 Induction Speech, George Brett thanked hitting coach Charley Lau for helping him become a Hall of Famer. Brett had a .305 career average, won three batting titles and flirted with the .400 mark in 1980 before ending the year at .390.

but he was a dead pull hitter in his day. And advancing age had done nothing to deter him from his belief in pulling the ball.

“But I had to go with my strengths, and my strengths were something I had done all my life and could fine-tune,” Boggs said. “I took certain parts of Ted’s philosophy. I read his book. But hips ahead of hands just didn’t work for me. My hands were always in front of my hips. The two philosophies were at the opposite ends of the hitting spectrum. Ted would come to Spring Training for a couple of weeks and sit down and talk with guys. But Walter was there on a day-in, day-out basis and so it was very easy and very comfortable for me to listen to him.”

What parts of *Teddy Ballgame’s* philosophy did Boggs adopt?

“Patience and discipline,” he said. “Knowing the strike zone. Knowing where in the strike zone your strengths are.”

It wasn’t always easy, being in camp with *The Greatest Hitter That Ever Lived* and a rising star in the ranks of big league hitting coaches. But everyone made it work.

“He warmed up to me,” Boggs said of Williams. “A lot of times when we were together, we’d talk fishing and everything like

that, but after a couple of batting titles and the 200 hits – he actually admired the 200-hit, 100-walk thing the years that I did it, because he knew how hard hitting was.”

Boggs hit .349 during that rookie season of 1982, alternating between first base and third base. The next year, he won the first of his five batting titles, hitting .361. In 1985, the Red Sox named Hriniak their hitting coach, a job he held until 1988 when he accepted a lucrative offer to take on the same role with the White Sox. Lau had worked for the White Sox after leaving Kansas City. It was while serving as the White Sox’s hitting coach that Lau was diagnosed with cancer; he died in 1984.

When Hriniak joined the White Sox, he wore the No. 6 that Lau had worn.

“He was extremely intense, and a lot of guys couldn’t handle it,” Boggs said of Hriniak. “But he wanted to get the most out of an individual, and whether you liked it or not, he’d push you to the limit as far as being mentally prepared for the game – and physically prepared.”

Steve Buckley is the columnist for The Athletic – Boston and a longtime member of the Baseball Writers’ Association of America.



Larry's Legacy

After his playing days, Larry Doby carved out an impressive coaching career.

BY PHIL ROGERS

Larry Doby was a dynamic force in baseball. He's immortalized on his Hall of Fame plaque partly for his "staunch constitution" and was praised by United States President George W. Bush after his death in 2003.

"Larry Doby was a good and honorable man, and a tremendous athlete and manager," President Bush said. "He had a profound influence on the game of baseball."

Doby, elected to the Hall of Fame in 1998, is best known as the second African American to play in the modern major leagues, which former Indians teammate Bob Feller said made him "kind of like Buzz Aldrin, the second man on the moon."

A stalwart center fielder, Doby was one of the top hitters of his era. After his playing days were over, he followed Frank Robinson to become the majors' second African-American manager.

But there's a side of Doby that is rarely talked about, one that isn't mentioned on his Cooperstown plaque or discussed when academics review his impact: Doby was one of the rare great hitters who was able to help others develop into stars.

Some stars are not able to communicate the secret of their success to young players. But Doby had that gift.

"I think it probably has a lot to do with patience," Hall of Fame manager Tony La Russa said. "The greater you are, the less patient you are going to be. The more you had to scramble and grind to get it happening, you appreciate the difficulty of it."

While Doby was a tremendous athlete blessed with the skills to be a great hitter, he certainly had to "scramble and grind" to

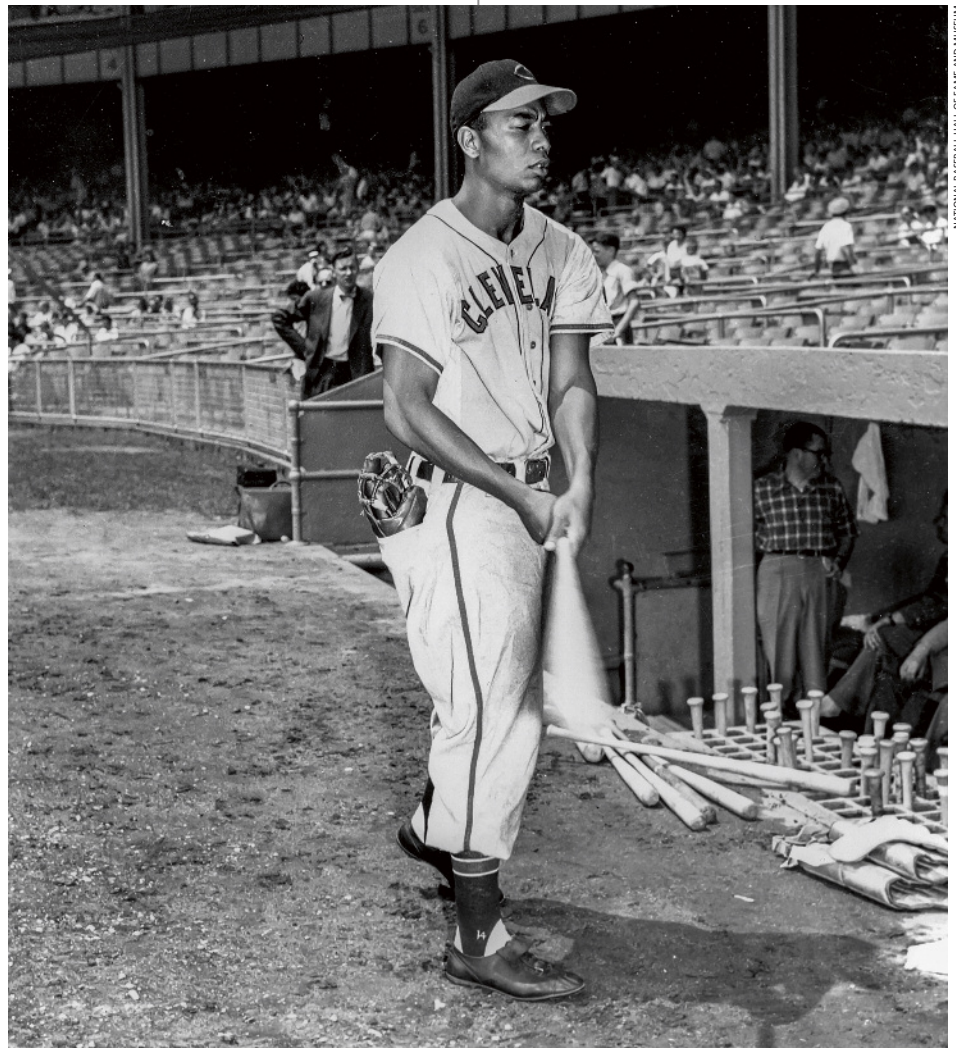
survive after breaking the color barrier in the American League. La Russa got to know him with the 1978 White Sox, when Doby was promoted from hitting coach to manager in the middle of the season.

"I know Larry had the patience and the information, the knowledge, of a good coach," La Russa said. "He knew a lot about how to have a productive at-bat. He had great knowledge and the ability to share it with our hitters."

Doby, who grew up in Paterson, N.J., and played for Eastside High School and Long Island University, joined the Negro National League's Newark Eagles when he was 17. He hit .391 in the 24 games for which there are box scores available from that season.

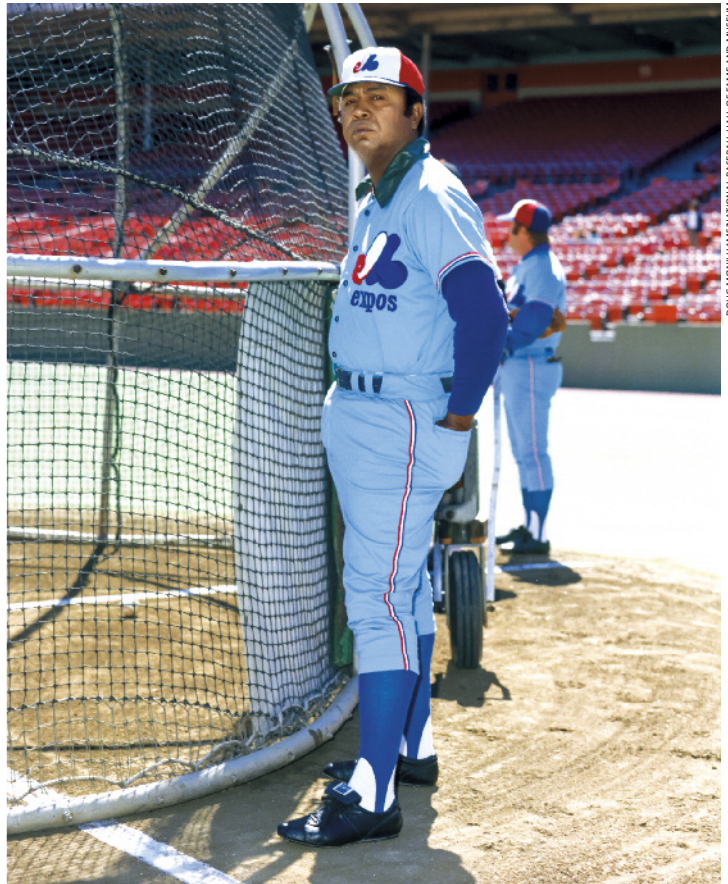
Bill Veeck, who owned the Cleveland Indians, had proposed integrating baseball as early as 1942. He purchased the rights to Doby from the Eagles in July 1947 and immediately put him into the Indians lineup – three months after Robinson's historic debut.

Following a 13-year big league career that saw him named to seven All-Star Games and twice lead the American League in home runs – with 32 in both 1952 and 1954 –



Larry Doby integrated the American League when he debuted with the Indians on July 5, 1947. He was selected to represent the AL in the All-Star Game seven times in his 13-year big league career.

NATIONAL BASEBALL HALL OF FAME AND MUSEUM



Left: Larry Doby became the second African-American manager in big league history when he took over the White Sox in 1978. The previous season, he served as hitting coach for a White Sox team that made a surprise run at the American League West title. **Right:** Doby spent four seasons as a coach with the Montreal Expos, where he helped form the foundation of the team's success in the late 1970s and early '80s.

Doby retired in 1959 and spent a decade mostly out of baseball until returning as a scout for the Expos in 1969. He was a minor league coach in '70 and joined Gene Mauch's staff as hitting coach in 1971. He spent three seasons in that role before being replaced by Duke Snider in 1974, but returned for another stint two years later.

Gary Carter, who had been second in Rookie of the Year voting in 1975, struggled as the Expos' primary right fielder in 1976 before Doby helped him.

Andre Dawson, who had torn up the American Association at Denver, joined the team in September 1976 and has never forgotten the care and instruction he received from Doby in their short time together.

Doby had spent 1974 as a coach for a Cleveland team that included Buddy Bell, Oscar Gamble and George Hendrick, all of whom were under 25. But his greatest impact as a coach may have come after Veeck hired him to serve as Bob Lemon's hitting coach with the 1977 White Sox.

The Sox had lost 97 games the year before,

ranking 10th among the AL's 12 teams in scoring and home runs, prompting Veeck and general manager Roland Hemond to overhaul the roster. They also brought in Doby to serve as hitting coach.

The end result was a team that became known as the South Side Hit Men. They led the AL West as late as Aug. 17, before the Royals reasserted their superiority, and finished with 90 wins while ranking third in the AL in runs scored and second in home runs.

Nine of the White Sox's hitters finished with double-digit home runs, led by Gamble's 31 and Richie Zisk's 30.

"Our hitters are all aggressive," Doby said that July. "But they are also patient and they wait for the good pitch. They worked all spring and it's paying off."

Doby had been disappointed when he was a runner-up in managerial searches with the Indians in '75 and the Expos in '76, but got his chance to run a team after the White Sox failed to build on their success. Lemon was fired following a 34-40 start in 1978, and the reins were turned over to Doby.

La Russa, the Sox's Double-A manager, was named Doby's first base coach. He had met Doby in Spring Training, but didn't know what to expect before working with him.

"I ended up being really impressed," La Russa said. "I got to know him really well. He was a man who knew what he had done, being a man who came into the American League as the first African American, but at this point in his career, he had a lot to offer. He knew a lot about what position players do, creating runs and playing defense. He was really interested in catching up on the pitching side of it."

Doby loved to talk about baseball. He spent more time asking questions than talking about himself.

"There were a lot of times on the road we'd go have breakfast," La Russa said. "He liked to talk, especially about the experiences he was having as a manager. I was very impressed by him. I learned a lot from him, too."

La Russa wasn't the only one, either. 📌

Phil Rogers is a freelance writer living in Chicago who has covered baseball since 1984.

PITCH PERFECT

LEGENDARY PITCHING COACHES DUNCAN, MAZZONE AND PERRANOSKI TEAMED WITH HALL OF FAME MANAGERS TO HELP BUILD DYNASTIES.

BY CARROLL ROGERS WALTON

To three of the Hall of Fame's most storied managers, sustained success went hand-in-hand with the longevity they had with their pitching coaches.

Tony La Russa, Bobby Cox and Tommy Lasorda all managed with the same right-hand man for more than 10 years, and in the case of La Russa, nearly 30.

The consistency of those relationships became a cornerstone for their careers.

Ultimately, it led to Cooperstown for three of the most successful managers of all time.

"Dave Duncan was directly responsible for hundreds of wins," said La Russa, who had Duncan as his pitching lieutenant for 29 years with the White Sox, Athletics and Cardinals, winning three World Series titles along the way. "Dave was absolutely a complete pitching coach. There wasn't any point, or any problem, with a pitcher that you acquired that Dave couldn't improve. That's just fact. He was a luxury."

Lasorda managed alongside pitching coach Ron Perranoski for 14 years with the Dodgers, including two World Series title runs. The Dodgers' pitching staff led the National League in ERA for five of those years and finished in the top five in 11 of them. Perranoski coached Cy Young Award winners Fernando Valenzuela and Orel Hershiser.

"[Lasorda] had me setting up the rotations

in Spring Training and throughout the whole year," Perranoski said. "During the game, I told him everybody I was going to warm up. Of course, he was the boss [but] that was our relationship. And he made it very easy for me. He let me have that kind of responsibility."

Leo Mazzone felt a similar kind of autonomy as Cox's pitching coach. The two worked side-by-side for 15 years, including the entire Braves run of 14 straight Postseason appearances. Mazzone, who coached Atlanta's Hall of Fame trio of Greg Maddux, Tom Glavine and John



The Braves' pairing of manager Bobby Cox (left) and pitching coach Leo Mazzone was among the most successful coaching duos of all time. During their time together, the Braves made 14 Postseason appearances.



Pitching coach Dave Duncan (left) worked with manager Tony LaRussa (right) for nearly 30 years, which spanned stints with the White Sox, Athletics and Cardinals. The duo won three World Series titles together.



Braves pitching coach Leo Mazzone (left) watches Greg Maddux warm up for a game against the Giants at Candlestick Park in 1995. Mazzone coached a trio of Braves Hall of Fame hurlers – Maddux, Tom Glavine and John Smoltz – during his time in Atlanta.

Smoltz, first earned Cox's respect while coaching in the minor leagues, where he had a reputation for keeping pitchers healthy.

"When I got to the big leagues, he said, 'I don't care what you do, just take care of those pitchers,'" Mazzone said. "He let you do your job. He didn't tell me how."

Like Perranoski, Mazzone said Cox always had final say, but there was a give and take in their relationship. The two had an instant rapport, which developed into the kind of kinship that only comes with years of working together in pressure situations.

"We'd be in the pennant race and Bobby would go, 'Well Leo, you ready?'" recalled Mazzone, who was known for rocking back and forth on the bench with nervous energy.

"I said, 'Yeah.' He goes, 'How you feel?' I said, 'Oh god, my head's about to blow up.' He said, 'Yeah, I've got chest pains. We're ready to coach.'"

La Russa said the best coaching relationships start with work, then respect, trust and, finally, friendship. His relationship with Duncan was different in that it started out as friendship. They were minor league teammates in the Kansas City Athletics organization – Duncan a catcher and La Russa an infielder. Working together on a major league staff made their friendship that much stronger.

"My wife and Dave's wife, Jeanine, who has passed away, said we got along better than each of us did with our wives," La Russa said. "His sons and my daughters could tell you: Dave and I really never had an argument. We might

have a difference of opinion, but our respective trust of each other was so strong. It never got emotional. I think he respected the job I was doing as a manager. I definitely respected the job he was doing as pitching coach. To this day, we talk once a week, once every two weeks."

Longtime pitching coaches and managers can get to the point where they're like spouses finishing each other's sentences.

"There would be a lot of times when Bobby would look at me and say, 'Get him up,' and he wouldn't have to name somebody," Mazzone said. "I would know who it was."

Mazzone first met Cox while working as a minor league pitching instructor during Cox's first stint managing the Braves from 1978-81.

Mazzone used to throw batting practice in

Spring Training. He really got to know Cox one day in 1980 when he and a few others were invited into Cox's West Palm Beach office to watch the "Miracle on Ice" U.S. Olympic hockey victory.

Their relationship grew when Cox came back to the Braves as general manager in 1985. As GM, Cox saw up close Mazzone's pitching philosophies put into action – how he required his pitchers to throw twice between starts instead of once (throwing more often but with less effort) and placed great emphasis on the low-and-away fastball.

Shortly after Cox returned to the Braves dugout as manager in 1990, he hired Mazzone to be his pitching coach. Mazzone can still recite the date: June 22.

"Bobby had the greatest influence on my life of any male, with the exception of my father," Mazzone said. "No. 1, he gave me the opportunity to get to the big leagues. He's the first one who ever made me feel important in the game of baseball."

Mazzone will always appreciate one gesture in particular, when he was still coaching in Triple-A Richmond. Cox wanted to reward Mazzone for the work he had done with Smoltz, improving his command and breaking pitches after the Braves acquired him in a trade from Detroit. Cox secured a ticket for Mazzone to be at Shea Stadium in New York when Smoltz made his major league debut against the Mets on July 23, 1988.

La Russa understood the importance of rewarding his coaches, too, especially when it came to a guy like Duncan, who went out of his way to avoid media adulation. La Russa said he embellished a story to the press during the 2011 World Series about the decision to use Chris Carpenter on three days' rest in Game 7. La Russa told the media he asked Duncan for other possibilities, and Duncan insisted on going with Carpenter. In reality, La Russa said they'd agreed on Carpenter all along.

"I spiced that up for publicity," said La Russa, who retired following that 2011 World Series victory. "I went out of my way because the way things are slanted, the manager gets a lot of attention. I was taught if you really have quality people, which we did, you need to divert some of that attention to them."

La Russa, now the Vice President/Special Assistant to the President of Baseball Operations for the Red Sox, spent more than 30 minutes



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Following a 13-year big league career that saw him twice lead his league in saves, Ron Perranoski served as Tommy Lasorda's pitching coach with the Dodgers for 14 seasons, including two that ended with World Series titles.

of a recent drive in Florida lauding the job "Dunc" did as his pitching coach. He pointed to the innovative charting Duncan did to prepare his pitchers for matchups. He said Duncan did manually what teams now use computers to do as a matter of routine. He raved about Duncan's ability to connect with pitchers, whether they were rookies or veterans.

And he described a time when the normally tough-minded former Marine broke down, indirectly coaching the entire Cardinals team on how to grieve the sudden death of pitcher Darryl Kile in 2002.

La Russa had just spoken to the players and their families, including Kile's family, in the hotel where the 33-year-old pitcher died of coronary illness while the team was in Chicago to play the Cubs. He then gave the floor to Duncan.

"Dave is very close to the vest with everything," La Russa said. "He's just not going to show [emotion] except when he's speaking with his [family]. When he was speaking about Darryl and coaching him, in the middle of it, he started crying. Then everybody started crying. We were all kind of tearing up, but to watch this man get that emotional, be so upset, that released [our emotions]. It was OK for the rest of us to display our suffering."

Living and coaching with each other every day for months at a time, year after year, brought the full range of emotions, from tears to laughter. Perranoski tells a story about going

out to lunch with Lasorda and the Dodgers coaching staff one Sunday in St. Louis. Lasorda told them he'd gotten a standing ovation attending a local church that morning.

"He said, 'You should have heard 'em at church – unbelievable,'" Perranoski said. "I said, 'Tommy, you sure that it wasn't after people were kneeling?'"

Mazzone still laughs about a game at Wrigley Field in 1990 when Cox called up to the clubhouse for coffee during the eighth inning of a Braves blowout win.

"He goes, 'Leo, you need anything?'" Mazzone said. "I said, 'Man the way this thing is going, I could sure use a beer.' He said, 'Send Leo down a beer.' The clubhouse guy goes, 'What?' Bobby said, 'You heard me. Send me down a coffee and send Leo down a beer. Put it in one of those Styrofoam cups.'"

"So now I'm sitting there in the dugout," Mazzone continued. "He's laughing. I'm looking around because it's TBS and WGN, and I'm going, 'Where the hell are the cameras? They see me drinking a beer in here...' He goes, 'Drink the damn thing.'"

Mazzone said the next day, during the eighth inning, as superstition would dictate, Cox ordered him another beer.

"I thought, 'Well, we need to keep this winning streak going. It'll be fun,'" Mazzone said. "So we bring in Kent Mercker in the eighth inning, and he's facing Héctor Villanueva with a one-run lead. Hector hits a two-run home run off Mercker. Bobby looks at me and goes, 'That's the last damn beer you'll ever have in this dugout.'"

For all that these manager-pitching coach duos accomplished in baseball, it's the funny stories that stand the test of time.

Mazzone retold a few of them on a visit to see Cox this summer. Cox had suffered a severe stroke in early April, and his speech was still limited, so Mazzone did most of the talking. Mazzone told the one about Maddux calling him out to the mound for a visit one time, because he said he was lonely. The two hadn't talked in a while.

Mazzone didn't hear Cox say it during the visit, but Cox's wife told him later that Bobby had leaned over and told her, "Leo brings me joy." ❶

Carroll Rogers Walton covered the Braves for 11 years for the Atlanta Journal-Constitution and is now a freelance writer based in Charlotte.




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Heat of the Moment

Class of 2019 inducted on historic day in Cooperstown.

BY BILL FRANCIS

Raw emotion, humorous anecdotes, throngs of cheering fans, moments that were bittersweet, others that embraced thankfulness. And there was even a musical soundtrack provided by a former player. The 2019 Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony had it all.

On a sunny Sunday afternoon, with temperatures in the mid-80s during one of the hottest weekends of the summer, the wait for baseball immortality finally came to an end for six of the sport's greats from recent decades. Historic closers Mariano Rivera and Lee Smith, durable and consistent starting pitchers Mike Mussina and Roy Halladay, and slugging designated hitters Harold Baines and Edgar Martinez were inducted as the Class of 2019.

Carrying on a summer tradition that began in Cooperstown back in 1939, this year's ceremony was held on the grounds of the Clark Sports Center, located about a mile south of the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum. An estimated 55,000 fans – the second-largest in history, trailing only the 82,000 fans who attended the 2007 induction of Tony Gwynn and Cal Ripken – came to witness this beloved National Pastime rite.

With an empty stage soon to be filled with legends, the ceremony began with MLB Network fixture Brian Kenny's introduction of the returning Hall of Famers. Cheers were afforded all, with Reggie Jackson's arrival eliciting chants of "Reg-gie" and Rich Gossage's appearance bringing calls of "Goose." Hank Aaron, guided by fellow Hall of Famer Jim

Thome, came out to rousing cheers and a heartfelt standing ovation.

Acknowledged reverently were Hall of Famers Willie McCovey and Frank Robinson, who had both passed away since the previous induction.

This year, 53 returning Hall of Famers were in Cooperstown for Induction Sunday on July 21, bringing the total number of Hall of Famers in town to 58 – the most Hall of Famers at any single location in history.

Before long, and live in front of a national television audience on MLB Network, the newest Hall of Famers were at the podium, telling their stories, sharing their experiences, thanking those who made the day possible and trying to put into words what it meant to join baseball's most exclusive fraternity.

This day's pastoral setting, with a sea of jersey-clad fans enveloping everything through to the rolling hills toward the rear, seemed perfect for a baseball-themed happening.

Leading off for the legendary lineup of inductees was Mussina, who recorded 270 wins and a .638 winning percentage. He was a five-time All-Star and seven-time Gold Glove Award winner, and capped his career with a 20-win season in 2008 at the age of 39. Fans repeated "Moose" as he approached the microphone.

"I'm standing up here with the best who ever played the game; some are my former teammates, some are former opponents, some I grew up watching on television. So the obvious questions are: 'What am I doing up here?' and 'How in the world did this happen?'" Mussina said.

"Since I received the incredible and surprising news of my election to the Hall of Fame back in January, I spent a lot of time reflecting on my journey to Cooperstown," Mussina said. "How did a kid from a small town in rural Pennsylvania play enough Wiffle ball to make it to the major leagues and pitch there for 18 years? I was never fortunate enough to win a Cy Young Award or be a World Series champion. I didn't win 300 games or strike out 3,000 batters.

"While my opportunities for those achievements are in the past, today I get to become a member of the National Baseball Hall of Fame. Maybe I was saving up from all of those 'almost' achievements for one last push. This time I made it."

Speaking for Halladay was his widow, Brandy, who was sometimes overcome with emotion during her speech.

"Anybody who thinks baseball truly isn't a family has never been involved in baseball. I know how honored Roy would be sitting here today with such accomplished men who have represented this game so well over the course of all of your careers," she said. "Thank you for being such a good example to him and for supporting him in his career and all of his efforts.

"This is not my speech to give. I'm going to do the best I can to say the things I believe Roy might have said or would have wanted to say if he was here today."

Baines, known during his career as quiet and unassuming, spoke with those same traits when addressing the audience. A respected and clutch left-handed hitter, the six-time All-Star totaled 2,866 hits and drove in 1,628 runs, retiring 21st on the all-time RBI list.

"It has taken time to sink in. Moments like the Hall of Fame orientation, signing the wall where my plaque will hang, standing here today in front of tens of thousands of baseball fans, makes it feel like less of a dream," Baines said.

"In the end, when you ask me why I never have been outspoken or said very much, I think of my dad and the lessons he passed on to me many years ago, often as we were playing catch in the yard," he continued. "As he told me, 'Words are easy; deeds are hard. Words can be empty. Deeds speak loudest and sometimes they echo forever.'"

Martinez, introduced with the echoes of "Ed-gar" following, was one of the game's best pure batsmen and a Mariners favorite. Just the



Left to right: Harold Baines, Lee Smith, Edgar Martinez, Mike Mussina, Mariano Rivera and Brandy Halladay – widow of Hall of Famer Roy Halladay – pose with their plaques on July 21 in Cooperstown. An estimated crowd of 55,000 attended the Class of 2019 Induction Ceremony at the Clark Sports Center.

third right-handed batter in history with as many as seven consecutive seasons with a .300 average, .400 on-base percentage and .500 slugging percentage, he won two batting crowns, was a seven-time All-Star and earned five Silver Slugger Awards.

“It is hard to believe that a dream that started when I was about 10 years old would take me on an amazing journey,” Martinez said. “Since the first time I saw Roberto Clemente on TV and some highlights from the World Series, I was hooked on the game of baseball. All I wanted to do was play the game, and like most kids in Puerto Rico, I wanted to be like Roberto Clemente. What a great example Roberto Clemente was to all of us in Puerto Rico. What an honor to have my plaque in the Hall alongside with his.”

Ending the 2019 Induction Ceremony were, appropriately enough, a pair of closers. First up was Smith, who saved 478 career games, topping MLB’s all-time list for more than a decade. The first to record at least 30 saves in 10 different seasons, he was named to seven All-Star teams and earned his league’s Reliever of the Year honor three times.

“First, I’d just like to say I’m really honored to

be here on this stage alongside all these baseball legends. Although I’m a little nervous with all these great hitters sitting behind me,” Smith said.

“While my plaque in the Hall of Fame has a Chicago Cub on my hat, all eight teams I played for were outstanding organizations. The fans in all eight cities had the same love of the game, and I felt their energy every time I recorded that 27th out. It drove me to try my hardest.”

Rivera, appropriately, closed the three-hour ceremony with the day’s final speech. But prior to that, longtime Yankees center fielder Bernie Williams, now an accomplished jazz guitarist, provided the event’s soundtrack when he opened the festivities with his unique version of “The Star-Spangled Banner.” Later, when Rivera was about to give his speech, Williams returned to the stage for an updated take on “Take Me Out to the Ball Game” – with a little “Enter Sandman” included for his former teammate.

Rivera set the standard for relief pitchers with unprecedented consistency and efficiency as a member of the Yankees dynasty of the 1990s and 2000s. His devastating cut fastball frustrated batters and produced a record 652 saves. Rivera also compiled a 2.21 career ERA,

was a 13-time All-Star and recorded 40 or more saves in nine seasons.

“First of all, I don’t understand why I always have to be last. I keep saying that for the last 20 years. Last 17 years of my career, I always say, ‘Why do I have to be the last one?’” a smiling Rivera joked to an audience that included the other three members of the Yankees’ famed “Core Four” – Derek Jeter, Jorge Posada and Andy Pettitte – along with Tino Martinez.

“Derek, Andy, Mr. Posada, Bernie Williams, Mr. Tino Martinez. Thank you, guys. I love you, man. You guys mean so much to me. To all my friends, I got my family here, the rest of the family, my friends here, thank you. Thank you for all that support.” 🍌

Bill Francis is the senior research and writing specialist at the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum.

Up Next

The National Baseball Hall of Fame’s 2020 Induction Weekend will take place July 24-27, with the Induction Ceremony scheduled for Sunday, July 26.

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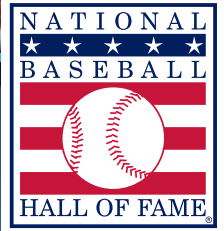
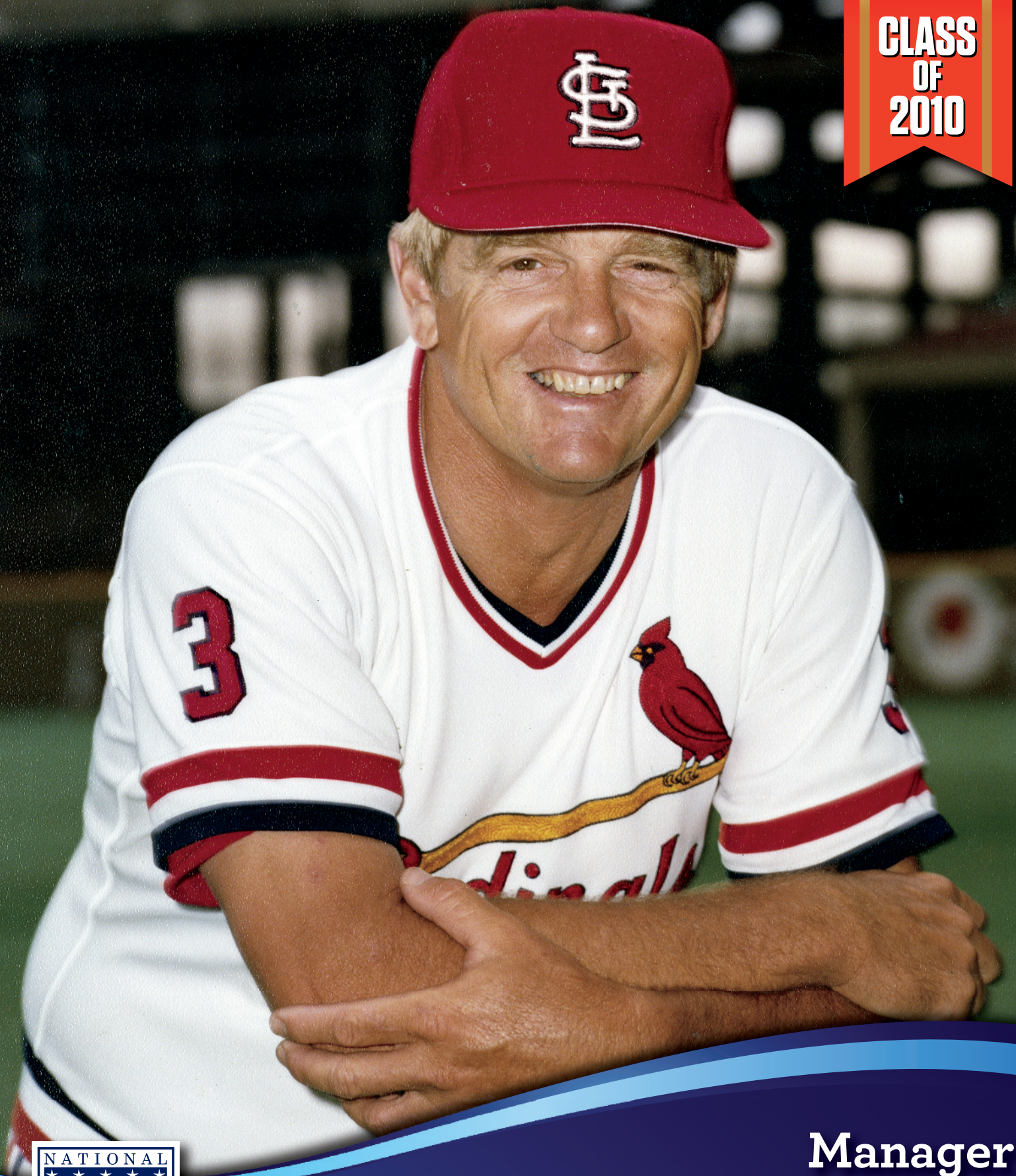
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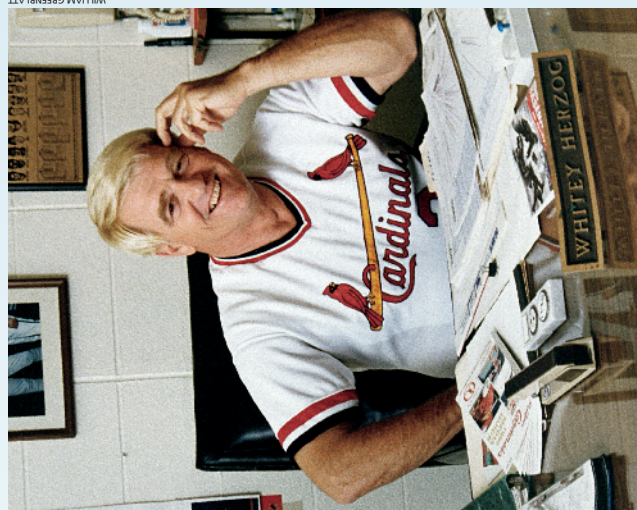
Manager

WHITEY HERZOG



DORREL HERZOG

Elected: 2010 • Born: Nov. 9, 1931, New Athens, Ill. • Manager: Texas Rangers (1973), California Angels (1974), Kansas City Royals (1975-79), St. Louis Cardinals (1980-90)



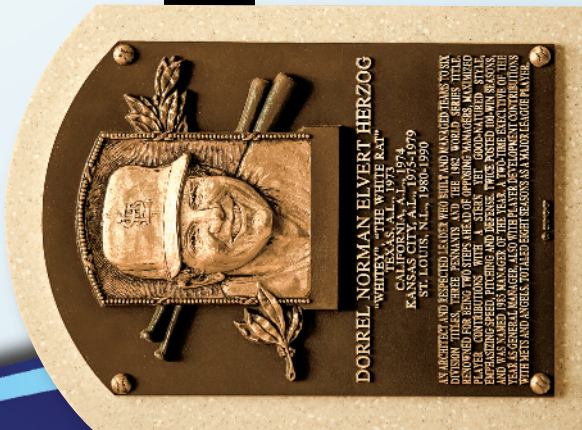
Year	Team	League	G	W	L	Pct.	Finish
1973	Texas Rangers	AL	138	47	91	.341	6
1974	California Angels	AL	4	2	2	.500	6
1975	Kansas City Royals	AL	66	41	25	.621	2
1976	Kansas City Royals	AL	162	90	72	.556	1
1977	Kansas City Royals	AL	162	102	60	.630	1
1978	Kansas City Royals	AL	162	92	70	.568	1
1979	Kansas City Royals	AL	162	85	77	.525	2
1980	St. Louis Cardinals	NL	73	38	35	.521	4
1981	St. Louis Cardinals	NL	103	59	43	.578	2
1982	St. Louis Cardinals	NL	162	92	70	.568	1
1983	St. Louis Cardinals	NL	162	79	83	.488	4
1984	St. Louis Cardinals	NL	162	84	78	.519	3
1985	St. Louis Cardinals	NL	162	101	61	.623	1
1986	St. Louis Cardinals	NL	161	79	82	.491	3
1987	St. Louis Cardinals	NL	162	95	67	.586	1
1988	St. Louis Cardinals	NL	162	76	86	.469	5
1989	St. Louis Cardinals	NL	164	86	76	.531	3
1990	St. Louis Cardinals	NL	80	33	47	.413	6
18 Years			2409	1281	1125	.532	2.8

All statistics are from baseball-reference.com • All bolded marks are league-leading totals, numbers in italics led both leagues and career stats asterisks are all-time records

Awards & Records: 1 World Series Championship (1982) • 3 NL Pennants (1982, 1985, 1987) • NL Manager of the Year (1986)

DID YOU KNOW ...

- ★ ... that in eight big league seasons as a player from 1956-63, Whitey Herzog hit .257 with a .354 on-base percentage as a reserve outfielder and pinch hitter?
- ★ ... that Herzog, as director of player development, was instrumental in building the 1969 World Series champion New York Mets?
- ★ ... that Herzog served as both manager and general manager of the Cardinals for almost two years from 1980-82?



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WHAT THEY SAY ...

- ★ "I don't think you can find a player that dislikes him. He's blessed with a special gift to deal with players." — GENE TENACE
- ★ "He was a manager, a general manager, a farm director, a player personnel director, a scout, a coach. How many Hall of Fame managers have worn all those hats? That tells you about his smarts right there." — HALL OF FAMER BRUCE SUTTER



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2020 Vision

Yankees legend Derek Jeter will be among first-time eligible candidates for Hall of Fame next year.

BY CRAIG MUDER

A decade after helping the Yankees finish their run of five World Series titles in 14 seasons, Derek Jeter stands on the precipice of the game's ultimate honor.

Jeter, the Yankees' legendary shortstop, is one of several players who are eligible for Hall

of Fame consideration for the first time in 2020. Jeter is eligible via the Baseball Writers' Association of America ballot, which will be announced in November.

Jeter, who never played a position in the field other than shortstop in his 20 MLB seasons with New York, was a 14-time All-Star and five-time Gold Glove Award winner. The

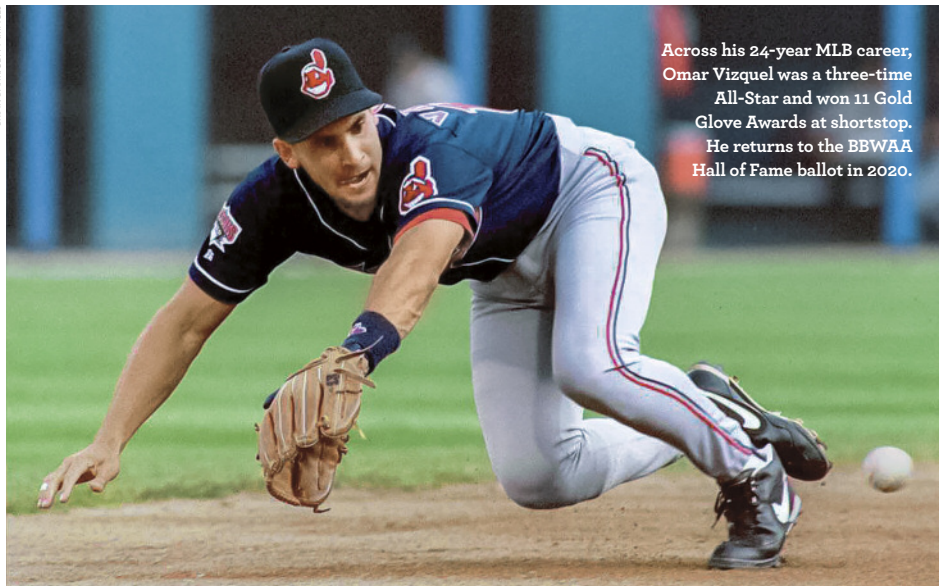
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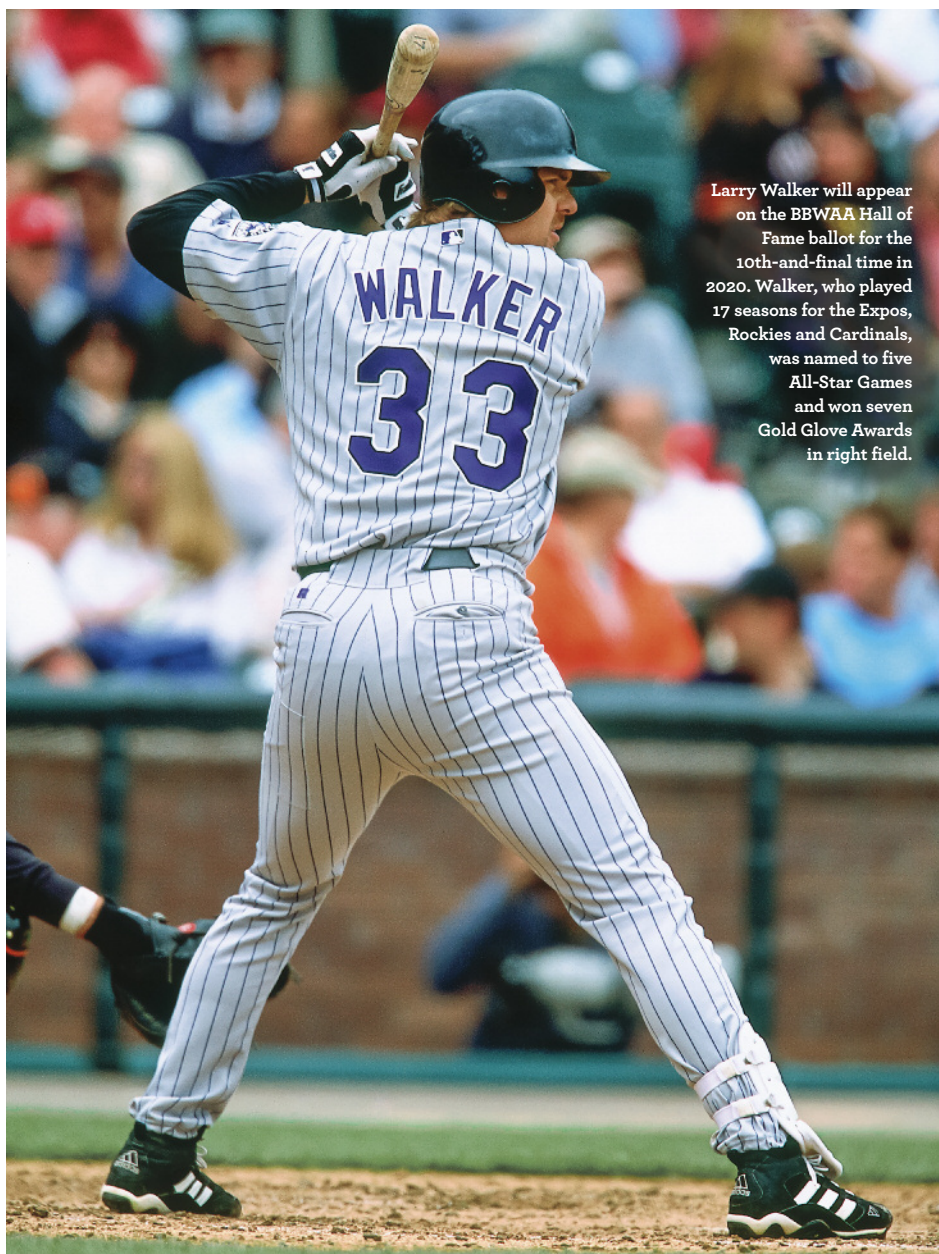
Curt Schilling is the leading returning vote-getter among candidates on the 2020 BBWAA Hall of Fame ballot, having been named on 60.9 percent of all ballots cast in 2019. **Below:** Derek Jeter played 2,674 games in the field over 20 seasons with the Yankees - each one at shortstop. Jeter becomes eligible for Hall of Fame consideration for the first time in 2020.



NEW YORK YANKEES



Across his 24-year MLB career, Omar Vizquel was a three-time All-Star and won 11 Gold Glove Awards at shortstop. He returns to the BBWAA Hall of Fame ballot in 2020.



Larry Walker will appear on the BBWAA Hall of Fame ballot for the 10th-and-final time in 2020. Walker, who played 17 seasons for the Expos, Rockies and Cardinals, was named to five All-Star Games and won seven Gold Glove Awards in right field.

1996 American League Rookie of the Year, Jeter scored at least 100 runs in 13 seasons and hit .300-or-better 12 times.

Jeter's 3,465 hits rank sixth all time and his 1,923 runs rank 11th. During a record 158 Postseason games, Jeter batted .308 with 111 runs scored, 200 hits, 32 doubles, 20 homers and 61 RBI.

He was named the 2000 World Series Most Valuable Player and the 2000 All-Star Game MVP.

Other first-time eligible candidates include Bobby Abreu, Jason Giambi, Paul Konerko, Cliff Lee and Alfonso Soriano.


Fourteen candidates will return to the BBWAA ballot in 2020, including four who received more than 50 percent of the vote in 2019: Curt Schilling (60.9 percent), Roger Clemens (59.5 percent), Barry Bonds (59.1 percent) and Larry Walker (54.6 percent).

Walker is making his 10th-and-final appearance on the BBWAA ballot.

Also returning to the ballot are (listed in order of their 2019 vote percentage): Omar Vizquel (42.8 percent), Manny Ramírez (22.8 percent), Jeff Kent (18.1 percent), Scott Rolen (17.2 percent), Billy Wagner (16.7 percent), Todd Helton (16.5 percent), Gary Sheffield (13.6 percent), Andy Pettitte (9.9 percent), Sammy Sosa (8.5 percent) and Andruw Jones (7.5 percent).

The results of the 2020 BBWAA vote will be announced Jan. 21, and the Induction Ceremony will be held Sunday, July 26, on the grounds of the Clark Sports Center in Cooperstown.

In addition to the BBWAA candidates, the Modern Baseball Era Committee will meet at Baseball's Winter Meetings in San Diego in December to consider candidates whose main contribution to the game came from 1970-87. The Modern Baseball Era Committee, which will be formed this fall, last considered candidates in the fall of 2017 when Jack Morris and Alan Trammell were elected as members of the Class of 2018.

Results of the Modern Baseball Era Committee vote will be announced Dec. 8. The 10-person ballot for consideration by the Modern Baseball Era Committee will be announced later this fall. 

Craig Muder is the director of communications for the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum.



Managing Expectations

Cox, Herzog and Lasorda paid their dues as coaches before taking charge in the dugout.

BY SCOTT PITONIAK

T heir dreams were the same. They wanted to become big league ballplayers. They wanted to hit and pitch their way to Cooperstown, just like their boyhood heroes had. But dreams and journeys often don't unfold as planned.

And so Bobby Cox, Whitey Herzog and Tommy Lasorda would be forced to travel different, more circuitous paths to baseball fame. They had to rely on brains rather than brawn. In the end, they managed just fine, combining for 5,384 wins, four World Series titles, 12 pennants, 29 divisional crowns – and three bronze Baseball Hall of Fame plaques.

“Baseball,” Herzog often joked, “has been good to me since I quit trying to play it.”

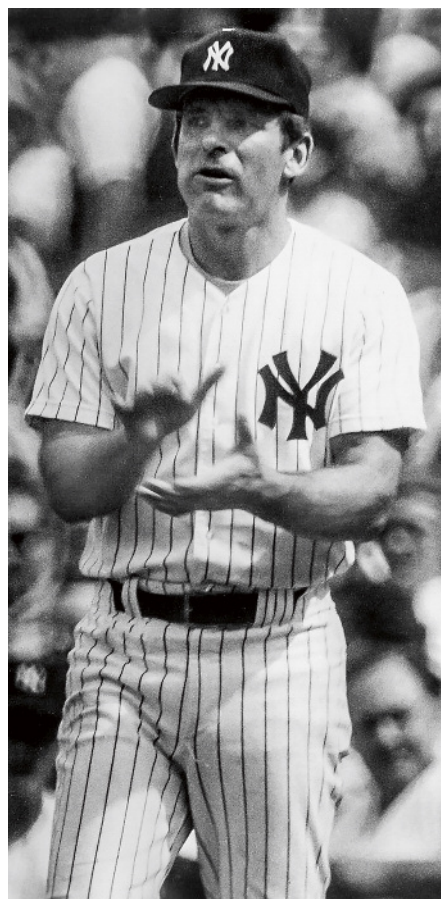
Cox and Lasorda can relate. The three of them became profiles in perseverance and masters of all trades.

Unlike fellow living Hall of Fame managers Tony La Russa and Joe Torre, who quickly earned opportunities to skipper MLB clubs, Herzog, Cox and Lasorda were forced to wear a number of caps before being trusted to call their own shots. Their varied apprenticeships would serve them well, as they dabbled in scouting, player development, minor league managing and big league coaching.

As had been the case during their playing days – the majority of which were spent in the minors – the trio always sought mental edges. They became students of the game, absorbing everything they could, including the psychology

of handling players. The way they had been treated – good and bad – would impact the way they treated others.

After hanging up his spikes following the 1963 season, Herzog spent two seasons as a scout and third base coach with the Kansas City Athletics. He then joined the New York



NATIONAL BASEBALL HALL OF FAME AND MUSEUM

Mets, serving as a third base coach, scout and director of player development. He is credited with discovering several players who played prominent roles on the Mets' World Series teams in 1969 and 1973, and also made his mark in the third base coaching box.

“He was an excellent third base coach, maybe the best I ever saw,” Baseball Hall of Famer and longtime Mets broadcaster Ralph Kiner said in an interview in the mid-1980s. “He knows more about baseball than anybody I've been around, except maybe Al Lopez.”

“A good third base coach can win 16 or 17 games a season for his club,” Herzog explained. “When a base runner has a chance to score, you've got to remember that the percentage is with him. It's like being a gambler – you'll force the other side to make either a perfect play or a damaging mistake.”

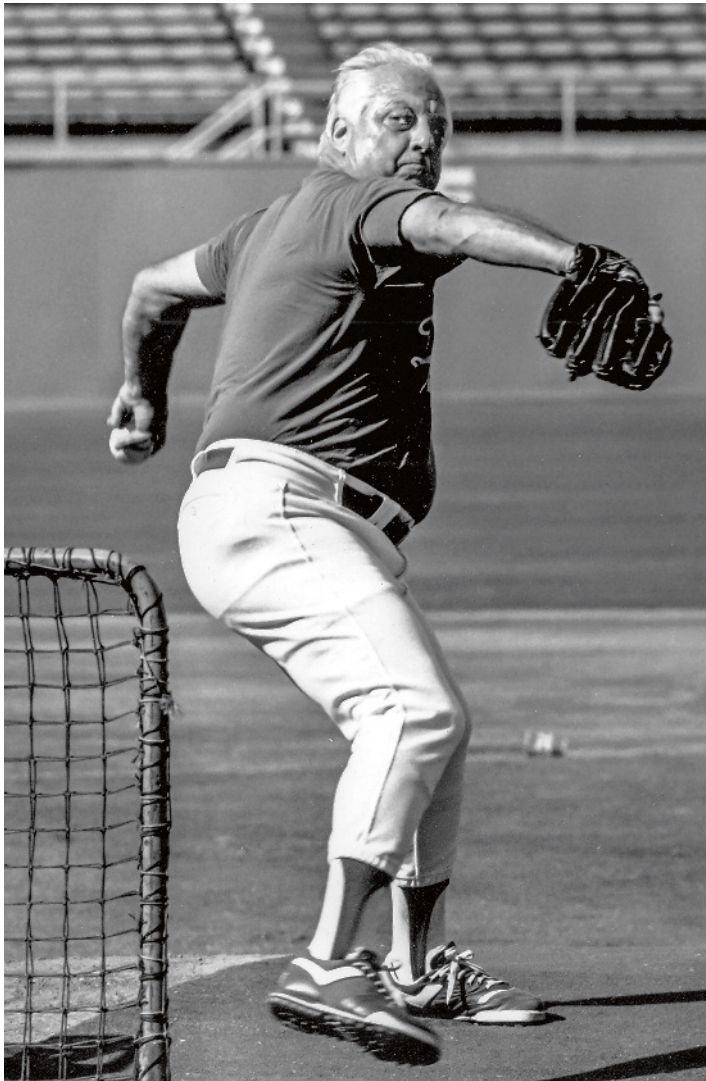
Herzog's aggressiveness as a coach would influence his managerial style with the Kansas City Royals and St. Louis Cardinals, two teams that relied on “Whiteyball” – which emphasized speed, defense, clutch hitting and solid pitching to take advantage of their respective artificial-surfaced home ballparks: Kauffman Stadium and Busch Stadium.

Cox's big league playing career was limited to two seasons with the New York Yankees because of bum knees. He wound up playing for Ralph Houk in 1968 and '69, and admired the way the decorated World War II Army major treated him and others.

“The best,” Cox said. “I think that helped me a lot, just being around him. He had the respect of the players, the way he treated them. Lowest guy on the totem pole, No. 25, he treated you the same as he treated Mickey Mantle.”

Houk and then-Yankees general manager Lee MacPhail were so impressed with Cox's baseball acumen that they offered him a minor league managing job when he was through playing. Cox seized the opportunity, reaching Triple-A with the Syracuse Chiefs at the age of 31 and guiding the team to the Governors' Cup title in 1976. That earned him a promotion to the Yankees the following year as a coach for manager Billy Martin. The Bronx Bombers won the World Series in '77 – defeating the Dodgers in six games – and Cox soon left to manage the Atlanta Braves.

During two tours of duty with Braves, sandwiched around a four-year stint managing



Opposite: The Yankees made Bobby Cox their first base coach in 1977 after Cox posted winning records in his first six seasons as a minor league manager. Following the Yankees' World Series title that season, the Atlanta Braves hired Cox as their manager. **Above left:** Tommy Lasorda served as a coach on manager Walter Alston's staff with the Dodgers from 1973-76, often throwing batting practice. Lasorda pitched with the Dodgers and Athletics in parts of three big league seasons before joining the Dodgers as a scout and later as a minor league manager. **Above right:** Whitey Herzog earned his first big league managerial job with the Texas Rangers in 1973 after spending several years as a coach and in the front office with the New York Mets. Herzog is shown here with Pirates manager Bill Virdon during the 1973 Hall of Fame Game in Cooperstown.

the Toronto Blue Jays, Cox won 15 divisional titles, five pennants and a World Series.

"I played for a lot of different managers and some I didn't care to play for at all," he said. "I didn't want to be one of those guys. When you get the reputation as a players' manager, players have got to put out. If I'm fair with them, they'll give me everything they've got."

Players loved how Cox always had their backs, especially when they were slumping.

"If you have a rotten game, he doesn't rip you in the press," said third baseman Chipper Jones, who was among the Hall of Famers who blossomed under Cox. "He just says, 'Get 'em tomorrow.'"

That was a lesson Cox learned from his one season as Yankees coach, when the soap opera antics of those "Bronx Zoo Bombers" were

chronicled daily in the Big Apple tabloids.

Interestingly, like Cox, Lasorda was influenced by playing for Houk late in the pitcher's minor league career. He adopted Houk's "build 'em-up" approach, and also developed a keen eye for identifying and developing young players.

After several years as a Los Angeles Dodgers scout, Lasorda put the uniform back on and became a highly successful minor league manager, with an astounding 75 of his players reaching the big leagues. General manager Al Campanis took note and promoted Lasorda to Dodgers third base coach in 1973. Four years later, Lasorda replaced retiring Hall of Fame manager Walter Alston, beginning a Hall of Fame career of his own that resulted in two World Series titles and four National League pennants.

"The fact I had coached most of the young players who formed the core of [our] pennant-winning teams of the late 1970s and early '80s helped me when I took over, because they were familiar with me and me with them," Lasorda said. "And I think the four seasons I spent coaching under Alston helped, too. It reinforced the Dodger way and gave me a chance to see how things were done on the big league level. I definitely was prepared for the manager's job."

That he was. Herzog and Cox were well prepared, too. As a result, each managed to find his way to Cooperstown. 🍌

Best-selling author Scott Pitoniak lives in Penfield, N.Y. His latest book, "Forever Orange: The Story of Syracuse University," was published this year.



Passing It On

Hall of Famers share their knowledge and expertise in roles as amateur coaches.

BY JANEY MURRAY

When his son Brett started playing high school baseball in 2001, Wade Boggs knew he wanted to have a front seat to his baseball career.

At the time, the Hall of Fame third baseman had just finished his first season as hitting coach for the then-Tampa Bay Devil Rays. But looking back on how his own father influenced him as his coach throughout his amateur career, he wanted to return the favor by coaching his son.

“My father coached me all the way up until, basically, when I signed at 17 years old. My dad taught me how to play the game the right way,” Boggs said. “I wanted to be hands on, as far as my son was concerned.”

Boggs resigned his post as Tampa Bay’s hitting coach in October 2001 and assumed the position of assistant coach at Wharton High School in Tampa. He’s been there ever since.

“It just kind of evolved into the more I got into it, the more I enjoyed it – because the rewarding aspect of it is teaching the game the right way to guys who are very impressionable,” Boggs said.

Boggs, who played in the major leagues for 18 years with the Boston Red Sox, New York Yankees and Devil Rays, is one of many Hall of Famers who have given back to the game by coaching amateur athletes.

In his time coaching high school, Boggs has helped his team to within one win of a state championship and seen his players go on to play college and professional baseball. To him, watching players learn the fundamentals of the game and take them to the next level is

one of the most rewarding parts of the job.

“On a professional level, you can lead the horse to water and, a lot of times, they won’t drink,” Boggs said. “But the kids are like sponges. They absorb everything.”

At the college level, Hall of Fame pitcher Greg Maddux took on a new role as a volunteer pitching coach at the University of Nevada-Las Vegas. The Las Vegas native and 2014 Hall of Fame inductee began coaching at UNLV when his son Chase was pitching for the Rebels in 2016 and has remained there since.

The investment in coaching amateurs extends beyond baseball.

In his retirement from playing Major League Baseball, Hall of Fame pitcher Tom Glavine put more than just his baseball talents to work. In addition to coaching baseball, the former high school hockey player – and 1984 fourth-round draft pick of the National Hockey League’s Los Angeles Kings – coached his kids at the Atlanta Fire Hockey Club for close to 10 years. He started off coaching occasionally during the offseason while he was still playing baseball and became a head coach once he retired.

“It was a good way for me to spend time with my boys, be around them playing a sport that they like to play and teaching them a sport that I love to play,” Glavine said.

As a high schooler, Glavine had several options as to where he would take his athletic skills. He ultimately chose baseball after the Atlanta Braves selected him in the second round of the 1984 MLB Draft, leading to a 22-year big league career with the Braves and Mets that eventually took him all the way to Cooperstown.

STAN GROBE/GETTY IMAGES



Glavine finished coaching several years ago. But while his children were still playing, coaching offered the opportunity to be around the ice again and have an influence on his kids’ athletic careers.

“It was an opportunity for me to have the sense that I felt like they were being taught the game the right way,” Glavine said. “What a great opportunity and responsibility that is to be able to teach a game that you love to the next generation of kids who are playing the game.”

Mike Mussina also has the expertise to coach multiple sports. The Class of 2019 Hall of Fame inductee is an assistant baseball coach and head basketball coach at Montoursville High School in his Pennsylvania hometown.



“Working with the kids is awesome,” Mussina said. “You spend a lot of time with these kids and try to guide them through their teenage years.”

Mussina was a star in baseball and basketball at Montoursville before he played college baseball at Stanford University and was drafted by the Baltimore Orioles in 1990. He went on to an 18-year major league career with the Orioles and Yankees, earning five All-Star selections and posting a 3.68 career ERA.

Mussina has been coaching basketball at his alma mater for eight years.

“You just try to be supportive and teach them what you can, help them out when they need it and just be a parent for them for those

couple of hours – and I really enjoy doing it,” Mussina said. “I hope the kids enjoy having me there to coach.”

While he’s not an amateur coach himself, Hall of Fame pitcher Randy Johnson understands as well as anyone the significance of giving back to the game by coaching, something many Hall of Famers have chosen to do in a variety of different facets.

“To be able to spread wisdom and that kind of stuff is extremely great,” Johnson said. “I try to do that as well when I have the opportunity. Pass along your wisdom, because you no longer can do it, but you can obviously give people advice on how to do things.”

For Boggs, giving back to the game by coaching its future is a responsibility – one

Hall of Famer Wade Boggs left his job as a big league hitting coach following the 2001 season, but still mentors players at the amateur level. He’s been an assistant coach with the Wharton (Fla.) High School Wildcats for 18 years.

that he enjoys fulfilling.

“I think that any time a former major leaguer or professional athlete has the opportunity to go back and teach kids the right way to play baseball, it’s rewarding,” Boggs said. “I think the nurturing and teaching of these kids from a professional standpoint speaks volumes.” 📌

Janey Murray was the 2019 public relations intern in the Hall of Fame’s Frank and Peggy Steele Internship Program for Youth Leadership Development.

BEFORE THE MIRACLE

THE COACHING STAFF OF THE 1962 METS FEATURED HALL OF FAME LEGENDS ROGERS HORNSBY AND RED RUFFING.

BY WAYNE COFFEY

For all of their fabled ineptitude – and when you finish 40-120, can you call it anything else? – the 1962 New York Mets had no shortage of certifiable stars among their ranks.

Gil Hodges, beloved former Dodgers stalwart and slugger of 370 home runs, played first base for Casey Stengel's club. Richie Ashburn, two-time National League batting champion in his years with the Phillies, played center field and wound up hitting .306, making him the best everyday hitter the Mets would have until Cleon Jones batted .340 in 1969.

And while Roger Craig may never have been a premier pitcher, as a rookie in 1955 he won a World Series game for the Dodgers against the vaunted Yankees, and he led the NL in shutouts four years later during another championship season, winning 11 games and posting the best earned-run average (2.06) on a staff that included hurlers named Sandy Koufax, Don Drysdale and Johnny Podres.

Still, the biggest names on the '62 Mets belonged, undeniably, to their hitting and pitching coaches: Rogers Hornsby

and Charles (Red) Ruffing.

Voted into the Hall of Fame in 1942, Hornsby was arguably the greatest right-handed hitter in history, a man whom John McGraw once said was a better hitter than Babe Ruth.

Hornsby was a seven-time batting champion with a career average of .358 and the single-season modern NL record of .424 – one of his three .400-plus seasons.

Ruffing, a 1967 Hall inductee, won 273 games over a 22-year career, including four consecutive 20-victory seasons from 1936-39, a span in which he went 82-33. The Yankees won the World Series each year, and Ruffing – the ultimate big-game pitcher – was a major reason why, going 7-2 with a 2.63 ERA in 10 Postseason starts. He would have approached 300 career wins if he hadn't missed the 1943 and 1944 seasons serving in the Army during World War II.

"We were surrounded by some great names," said Craig Anderson, who, as a 23-year-old right-hander, pitched in more games (50) than any other Mets hurler in 1962, finishing 3-17 with a 5.35 ERA.

A famously direct and plain-spoken man, Hornsby, then 66, possessed a knowledge of hitting that was beyond compare.

"He hit .400 and was the greatest right-handed hitter in baseball," Stengel said.

When he was introduced as a Mets coach, Hornsby posed with a bat in front of a rendering of the Mets' future home: Shea Stadium.

"I believe I can help the Mets hitters ... if they want to be helped," Hornsby said. "Of course, I don't expect to develop any .400 hitters. I'm afraid that kind of hitter is gone forever."



Casey Stengel (center) put together an all-star coaching staff for the New York Mets' inaugural season of 1962, including (from left) Solly Hemus, Rogers Hornsby, Red Ruffing and Cookie Lavagetto.



Hall of Famer Rogers Hornsby (left) instructs a group of Mets players during the team's inaugural season of 1962. Hornsby served on the team's initial coaching staff with another future Hall of Famer, Red Ruffing.

Hornsby was not shy about criticizing “modern” hitters, who he felt were so smitten with the long ball that they had abandoned the fundamentals of hitting. (He had a very public spat with Roger Maris on that subject.) He was almost as renowned for his idiosyncrasies as his ability to rope line drives. Hornsby didn't smoke, drink or stay out late during his career. He claimed he never went to a movie theater in his life, thinking that it would strain his eyes. He was an ardent believer that success as a hitter begins with a sharp knowledge of the strike zone – “17 inches across, from the knees to the armpits” – and knowing what pitches you could handle. One of the players he worked with the most was Joe Christopher, a promising outfielder from the Virgin Islands.

“It's a great pleasure to meet you,” Christopher told Hornsby in Spring Training. “I've been carrying around a magazine article with your batting tips.”

“Did it help?” Hornsby asked.

“Didn't have anyone to work out with,” Christopher said.

“You'll get all the help you want now,” the Mets' new hitting coach replied.

Hornsby had a firm opinion that he shared often with Christopher and anyone else who would listen: “Pitchers don't get you out. You get yourself out.”

Hornsby, who struck out 32 times in 1924, the year he hit .424, preached not just making contact with the ball, but impacting the ball. Christopher absorbed the lessons well enough to hit .300 for the 1964 Mets, and said it was all part of knowing the strike zone and what pitches you could hit solidly.

“You can't make impact if you don't have contact,” Christopher said.

For his part, Ed Kranepool, the Mets' prized prospect who was all of 17 in 1962, said Hornsby related better to older players. But Kranepool got significant counsel from yet another Hall of Famer in the organization,

Paul Waner, who worked as a roving hitting coach in the team's farm system.

“He explained his philosophy, and taught us about getting your hips out so your belly-button was facing the pitcher,” Kranepool said.

Ruffing, who was 56 when the 1962 season started, was the son of an Illinois coal miner who lost four toes on his left foot in a mining accident as a teenager, a trauma that convinced him that he wanted no part of the mining life. He led the AL in defeats while pitching for the Red Sox in the darkest era in franchise history, losing a combined 47 games in 1928 and 1929, before being traded to the Yankees for backup outfielder Cedric Durst and \$50,000. (It may not have been as bad a transaction for the Sox as the Babe Ruth deal, but it was close.) Ruffing, still just 25, then went 15-5 for the Yankees in 1930, and was on his way to becoming a right-handed stalwart.

“He was an easygoing, friendly guy and a good coach,” Anderson said. “Considering that



AP IMAGES

Casey Stengel managed the New York Mets during their first years as an expansion team. The groundwork he and his coaches laid, however, paid off by the end of the decade when the Mets won the 1989 World Series.

we had such a rough year, he was very pleasant to be around. I guess he must've liked me, because he used me a lot."

With a staff that had a collective earned-run average of 5.04, worst in the league, Stengel rang the Mets' bullpen often. Anderson said the conversation was almost always the same — from the beginning of the year until the end. Stengel would call. Ruffing would pick up.

"Who do you want?" Ruffing would ask.

"Who ya got down there?" Stengel would reply.

Ruffing would run down the entire collection of relievers: Anderson, Moorhead, Daviault, MacKenzie, Hunter, Mizell, Miller, Hillman.

"Give me a right-hander," Stengel would say.

George Vecsey, one of the leading sports journalists of his generation, was a young reporter covering the '62 Mets for *Newsday*. He surmises that the addition of Hornsby and Ruffing to Stengel's staff may have been equal parts "sclerotic management and a sentimental gesture to two old baseball men," and one part PR move to boost the image of an expansion team in a city owned by the Yankees, the game's most successful franchise.

"It was all about Casey winning the propaganda war with the Yankees, building a fan base," Vecsey said. "The Mets were such a combination of awful and compelling that there

wasn't room for inside baseball (expertise)."

The '62 Mets lost their first nine games, and later had losing streaks of 13 games and 17 games. They went 17-61 after the first All-Star Game of the year on July 10, and it was no fluke; they were the worst team in the National League in pitching, hitting and fielding.

The brain trust in the dugout and the clubhouse, however, was purely Hall of Fame material. 📌

Wayne Coffey is the author of "They Said It Couldn't Be Done: The '69 Mets, New York City and The Most Astounding Season in Baseball History."

A LEGACY OF SHARING

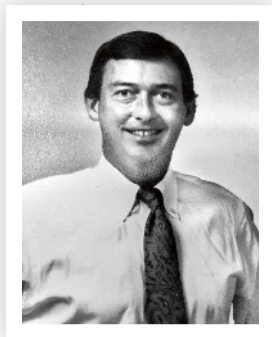
DEAN O. COCHRAN, JR.'S DONATION WILL ENSURE THE MUSEUM'S LIBRARY AND PHOTO ARCHIVES ARE ACCESSIBLE FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS.

Dean O. Cochran, Jr. spent much of his life supporting the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum. And Cochran made sure that his legacy would live on forever in Cooperstown.

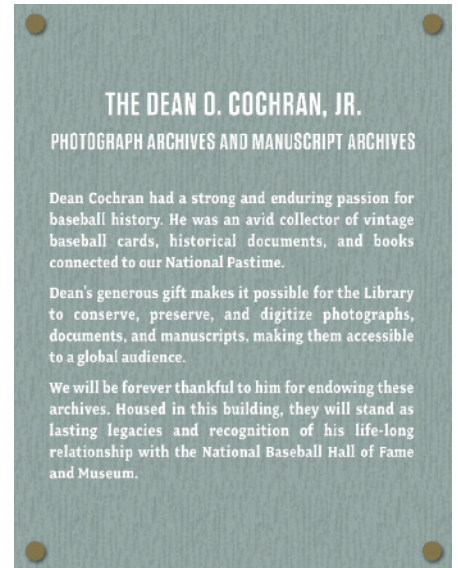
As part of his estate planning, Cochran, who passed away in 2018, left \$5 million to the Museum, with instructions to use the money to support current and future Hall of Fame Library operations. He also donated more than 100 items to the Museum and Library collections – including books, baseball cards, commemorative pins and documents.

A native of Fort Worth, Texas, and a graduate of Texas Christian University, Cochran was a proud Texan, an avid collector and a lifelong baseball fan. His collection included more than 900 baseball books as well as historic documents, photographs and baseball cards.

In the 1980s, Cochran owned a baseball card shop, often keeping the most desirable



cards that came in for his personal collection. The card shop was just another way for him to connect with the game he loved so much.



This plaque has been installed in the Library Atrium in recognition of Dean O. Cochran, Jr.'s generous gift to the Hall of Fame Library.

“Dean’s love of the game began with playing youth baseball, but his passion for the sport deepened when he became friends with Eddie Chiles, who at that time owned the Texas Rangers. Dean and Eddie spent many nights together at the old ballpark talking baseball,”



MILO STEVART JR./NATIONAL BASEBALL HALL OF FAME AND MUSEUM

Dean O. Cochran, Jr.'s legacy gift will allow the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum's Library to preserve documents and photos for generations to come.

The Dean O. Cochran, Jr. Manuscript Archives and the Dean O. Cochran, Jr. Photograph Archives have been named in memory of Cochran's gift to the Museum.



recalled longtime friend Robert Semple.

Semple, who attended TCU with Cochran (where they both pledged with Kappa Sigma), remembered him as “a bright individual who studied, did his homework and made good grades, but had just as much fun as the rest of us. He had a great sense of humor.”

Cochran had a successful career as a banker and oil executive, but he may have missed his true calling, given his passion for baseball history. He would spend countless hours researching the stories behind the items in his collection and loved to share them with his friends. Approaching collecting like a museum curator, he was driven not by simply owning the items in his collection – but by understanding how the items fit into the history of the National Pastime.

His longtime friend John Mayeron fondly remembers attending lunches that Cochran hosted in Fort Worth with fellow collectors so

PHOTOS BY MILO STEWART, JR. NATIONAL BASEBALL HALL OF FAME AND MUSEUM



Dean O. Cochran, Jr. donated dozens of artifacts and documents to the Hall of Fame collections, including: a pin from the 1937 All-Star Game; a Topps gum box circa 1941, prior to when Topps produced baseball cards; a 1965 World Series ticket; and 1955 Topps baseball cards of Hall of Famers Ernie Banks, Eddie Mathews and Ted Williams.



they could share stories and talk baseball. Each lunch included a show-and-tell, with everyone sharing an item from their personal collection.

“The stories were more important than the monetary value – as Dean’s quest for knowledge was always the driver behind everything he did,” Mayeron said. “He displayed his collection proudly in his Fort Worth home and he was always happy to provide a tour to friends, sharing the stories that he had uncovered through his research. That is why he loved the Hall of Fame Library and the public access to baseball history that it provides to researchers and fans.”

In recognition of Cochran’s generous bequest, the Hall of Fame will name two Library Archives in his memory: the Dean O. Cochran, Jr. Photograph Archives, which houses the Library’s collection of more than 300,000 photographs; and the Dean O.

PHOTOS BY MILO STEWART / NATIONAL BASEBALL HALL OF FAME AND MUSEUM



Cochran, Jr. Manuscript Archives, which houses the Library’s collection of documents. In addition, Cochran’s gift will ensure that the Museum has the resources to continue improving public access to the collection through its online Digital Collection.

“We are so grateful for Dean’s longstanding support of the Hall of Fame,” said Ken

Meifert, the Museum’s Vice President of Sponsorship and Development. “This gift will have a lasting impact on the Hall of Fame Library, ensuring that our collections are preserved and accessible for future generations.

“Dean’s passion for baseball history and the Hall of Fame Library will always be remembered here in Cooperstown.”

CAL SR.'S WAY

THE FATHER OF HALL OF FAMER CAL RIPKEN JR. INSTILLED FUNDAMENTALS TO GENERATIONS OF ORIOLES ONE DAY AT A TIME.

BY JIM HENNEMAN

He helped raise two major leaguers at home, hundreds more down on the farm – and some of them grew up to be Hall of Famers.

But to Cal Ripken Sr., they all looked the same in a uniform.

At one point or another, a coach in the big leagues could be called on to not only be an instructor, but a mentor, confidant, supporter, critic, big brother or maybe even a dispenser of tough love as a father figure. Over the course of his career, Ripken touched all of those bases.

When he became manager of the Baltimore Orioles in 1987, with sons Cal Jr. and Bill on the team, perhaps only those who had followed his path could believe Ripken's answer when asked what it was like to manage his two boys.

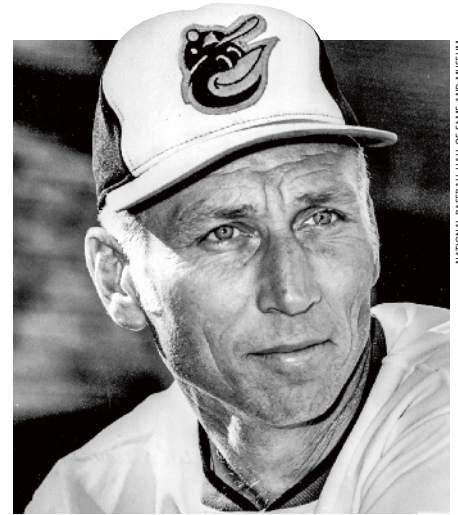
"They're all my boys," was his response every time the subject came up. "I have 25 boys out there and they're all the same to me."

Long before he became the only big league manager to have two sons play on the same team, Ripken had played, coached and managed at every level of the Orioles organization. He knew what it took to climb the minor league ladder.

"His message was that there were no shortcuts," said Hall of Fame pitcher Jim Palmer. "And everybody really was the same to him, whether you were a 'bonus baby' or one of the backups: You got the same treatment."

Ripken was Palmer's first professional manager, in Aberdeen, S.D., in 1964. The hurler was 18 years old and the vivid impressions haven't faded over the years.

"There was no 'Oriole Way' back then; it was just the 'right way.' And that's how we did things," Palmer said.



NATIONAL BASEBALL HALL OF FAME AND MUSEUM

Ripken is famously known for saying "practice doesn't make perfect ... perfect practice makes perfect," and it was more than just a clever quote.

"He was all about perfect practice," said Palmer, the memory still fresh years later.

Ripken's career started in 1957, when he



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Cal Ripken Sr.'s many years with the Orioles included a two-year stint (1987-88) as the team's manager.



Cal Ripken Sr. (center) raised his sons Cal Jr. (right) and Bill (left) on the fundamentals of baseball. He did the same for hundreds of other Orioles players during his time as a coach in the Baltimore organization. **Below:** Jim Palmer was a mainstay in the Orioles rotation for nearly two decades, but never forgot the lessons learned from Cal Ripken Sr. during his rise through the team's farm system.



was the first player signed by Walter Youse, a legendary scout in the Baltimore area who had a pretty good idea of what he was getting.

"I don't know if he can catch in the big leagues," Youse said at the time, "but he'll be great for the organization."

All things considered, it proved a very astute observation. Ripken rarely advanced above Class B in the minor leagues, though he did hit .281 with nine home runs and 74 RBI while playing for Fox Cities (Wis.) in 1960, where his manager was Earl Weaver. Three years later, at just 27 years old, Ripken was managing the Fox Cities team.

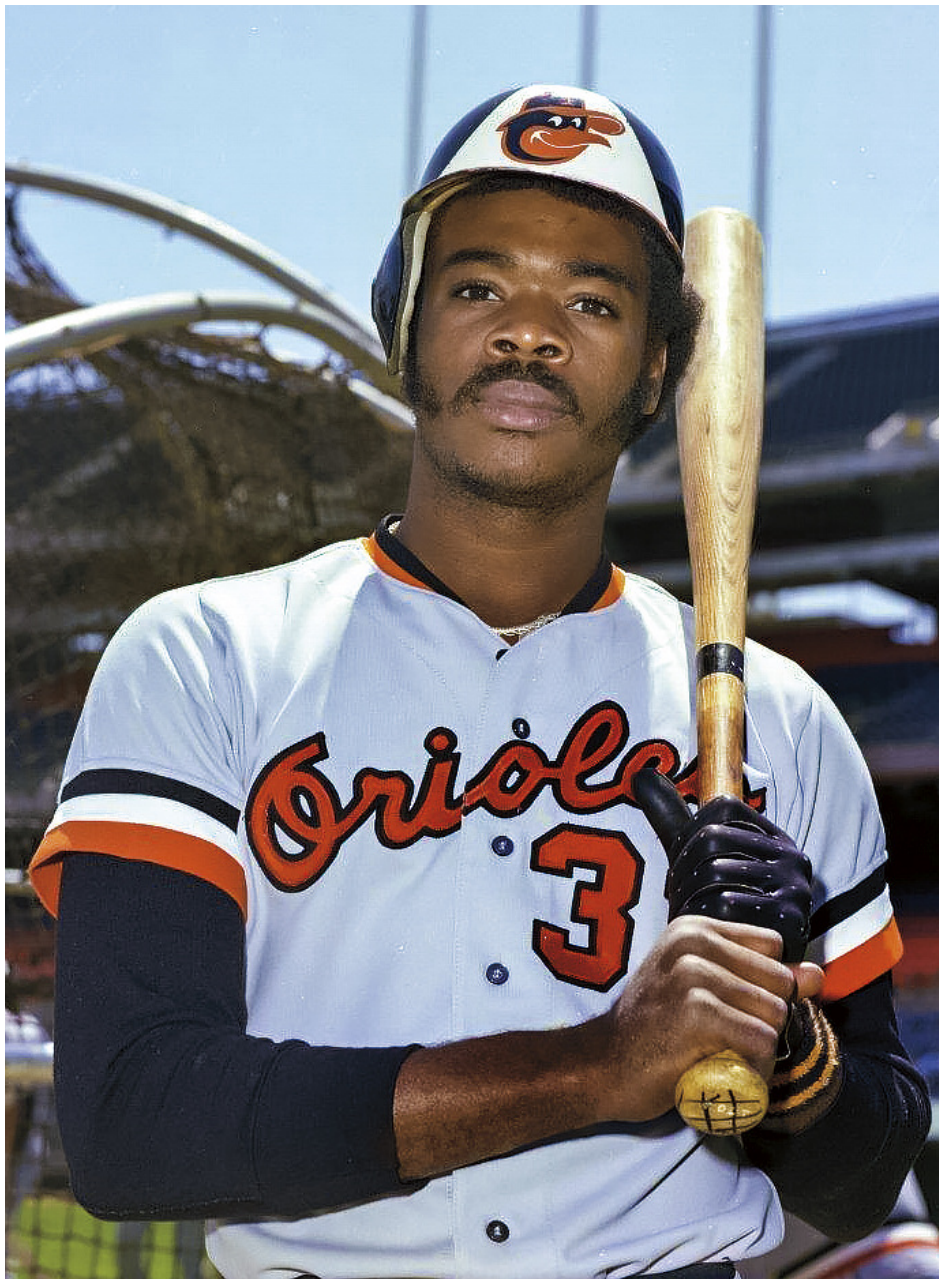
Eddie Murray only played two games on a minor league team managed by Ripken, but the two developed something akin to a

father-son relationship in the years spent together in Spring Training, the Instructional League and, later, in the big leagues.

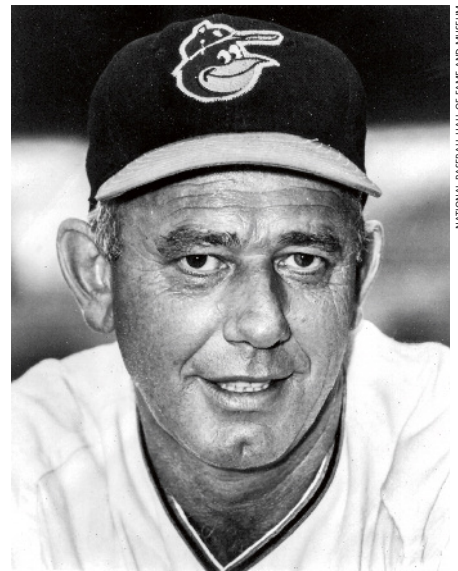
"When I first came to the Orioles, they had a book for every position for where every player should be for every play," Murray said. "I knew how to play the game because I had a coach, Clifford Prelow, who stressed the same things, and Rip reminded me of him."

The two hit it off and forged a solid relationship that came to light before either made it to the big leagues.

"Somewhere along the line, he stood up for me," said Murray. "I had a habit of standing with my arms folded and some people thought it was a sign that I was lazy,



NATIONAL BASEBALL HALL OF FAME AND MUSEUM



NATIONAL BASEBALL HALL OF FAME AND MUSEUM

Left: Hall of Famer Eddie Murray found a champion in Cal Ripken Sr., who helped put him on the path to the Hall of Fame. **Above:** George Bamberger was one of several of Earl Weaver's Orioles coaches, along with Cal Ripken Sr., who helped instill the "Oriole Way" to generations of players.

and Rip said, 'Talk to me the next time he's out of position and then I'll listen to you.'

"Old Man Rip" was really, really something special," Murray said. "I can still see him with the tractor light on (working on the infield) and guys laughing. I said: 'You don't understand, this man loves the game – you just don't realize it.'"

Murray is only one of many who recount stories of Ripken, the minor league camp coordinator, driving a tractor. When it came to manuring the infield, "no stone goes unturned" was part of Ripken's theory that "perfect practice makes perfect." Murray and Cal Sr. formed their relationship during those years, but it was cemented during Eddie's rookie season.

"Cal Jr. started coming around and when

Senior introduced us, he told him, 'This is your brother.'"

That was the year before Cal Jr. was drafted and four years before his major league debut – and the beginning of another Ripken connection, a journey that would ultimately take both players to Cooperstown.

Cal Jr. and Bill didn't get to spend field time with their dad until all three were in the big leagues, but evidence suggests the minor league experiences others received were pretty much an extension of life at home. Together they now run the Cal Ripken Sr. Foundation, establishing a legacy of the principles he believed in and passed on to others. Those who didn't wear uniforms

got the same treatment as those who did.

"If it's worth doing, it's worth doing right," Cal Jr. said, recalling a favorite family saying while noting his father's precision for something as basic as mowing the lawn. "He taught how to mow straight lines and cut sharp edges."

It was a lesson no doubt straight out of the Cal Sr. handbook, which said: "What you do today is practice for how you will live tomorrow."

That's the same message, in different words, Palmer heard in Aberdeen, S.D., so many years ago: "Let's go out and try to be a little better today than we were yesterday."

It wasn't just a spoken line – it was a way of life.

Perhaps it was Bill Ripken who best explained Cal Sr.'s mission: "Dad was a teacher first and foremost. He had a spot for kids and he had a spot for teaching."

As a baseball "lifer," Cal Ripken Sr. was a "coach" in every sense of the term. Instructor, mentor, supporter, critic, big brother and father – he played every role.

That legacy is now the mission for the Cal Ripken Sr. Foundation, striving to cover all bases and "guide at-risk youth toward a healthier future."

One day at a time. ●

Jim Henneman, formerly of the Baltimore Sun, has covered the Orioles as a beat writer and columnist for parts of seven decades.

FACE VALUE

ROLLIE FINGERS AND HIS FAMOUS MUSTACHE SET THE STANDARD FOR THE MODERN-DAY RELIEVER.

BY HAL BODLEY

Start with the mustache. It seems to go from first base to third, curled at the ends with a pitcher's mound in the middle.

Of course, there's also the 341 saves, the Cy Young Award, the MVP, the seven All-Star Game selections, the three World Series rings and even the 1992 Hall of Fame induction. But mention the name Rollie Fingers and it's all about that distinctive handlebar mustache.

"Oh, I know him – the pitcher with the mustache," a lady said when his name came up.

Fingers, now 73, agrees with a laugh that it's probably the most famous mustache in baseball and obviously his trademark.

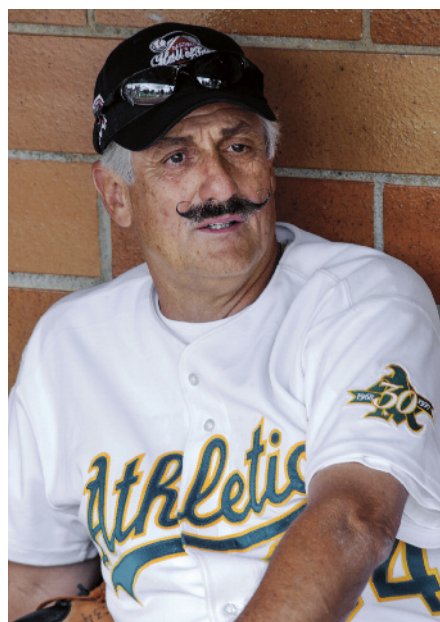
"I've had it now for 40-plus years and only once did I come close to shaving it off, but I guess it's here to stay."

More about that later, but Fingers is emphatic when he says he doesn't want the handlebar, with the curled tips, to be his legacy.

"Not at all," he said. "I just want to be known as one of the guys who changed the game – being a relief pitcher, being a closer.

"I believe every organization back in the late '60s started to see the success I had and (also) guys like Dave Giusti, Clay Carroll, Sparky Lyle. I want to be remembered as part of the group that changed the face of baseball. Today, if you don't have a good closer, you're not going to win. That's what I'm most proud of."

He's talking about his ability to close out



Rollie Fingers grew his famous handlebar mustache in 1972 and has kept it ever since. Fingers played nine of his 17 big league seasons with the Oakland Athletics, winning three World Series titles.

games with his nasty, sinking fastball – to preserve wins for pitchers who were seldom satisfied if they didn't pitch late into games.

"The teams I pitched for had starters like Catfish Hunter, Vida Blue, Ken Holtzman – these guys got paid for complete games," Fingers said. "They didn't want to come out. It was like pulling teeth to get Catfish out. They (as a group) were completing 45-50 ball games a year, unheard of today. I was the guy who preserved it for them."

Fingers, who spent 17 years in the major leagues pitching for the Athletics, Padres

and Brewers, saved what was at the time an MLB-record 341 games. He was elected to the Hall of Fame by the Baseball Writers' Association of America in his second year of eligibility.

He's now retired and living in Las Vegas, where he spends much of his time on the golf course – when not doting on his two teenage children or donating untold hours of his time to the KinderVision Foundation, established in 1991 as a recognized charity of Major League Baseball.

"It's an educational program for kids on how to protect themselves against predators, pedophiles, kidnappers," Fingers said. "We do three or four golf tournaments and other events each year to raise money for the specific city. We work with police departments in the cities where we hold the events, and all the money we raise goes to the city.

"It's all about educating children how to keep themselves out of a situation where they might get abducted. We stress: Never walk home alone, always be with a group. If someone wants you to come over to a van to see a puppy, don't go. If someone grabs you, kick, scream, do whatever you have to do to get away. Run to another adult.

"At the All-Star Game each year, we interview children and then they watch [an instructional] video. Moms and dads love it. It's so educational; sometimes the kids know more about it than the mothers and fathers."

A divorced father, Fingers oozes with pride as he talks about 16-year-old son Sammy, "who's becoming a good soccer player," and 15-year-old daughter Shaylan, "who's really into singing. I went to one of her practice sessions recently and she was belting out the songs. I was somewhat surprised. She's on the school choir, wants to get into acting and singing. She loves it."

Since that memorable Induction Day in Cooperstown, Fingers said he's "worked for a printing company for 10-12 years, selling live internet for television. I moved to Las Vegas in 2000 and worked for a gentleman who has golf courses. I was involved in marketing the courses, four of

MILO STEWART JR./NATIONAL BASEBALL HALL OF FAME AND MUSEUM

them. I would go to meetings every day on the Strip at the casinos and talk to their marketing people about our golf courses. The hotels would have groups come in who wanted to play golf; they would use our golf courses. That was my job.

“To tell you the truth, after about 10 months, I got tired driving on the Strip. I would come home a raving maniac because of the traffic.”

Fingers, like so many others in the Hall of Fame, said, “After I was inducted, my life changed dramatically. It’s so flattering. People want to meet you, hear stories about your career, get your autograph. I do a lot of luncheons, questions and answers.”

And then he added a refreshing thought: “Card shows these days are kind of going out the window. Players today are demanding too much money for their autographs. A kid can’t afford a \$150 signature on a baseball, bat or a card. I have always kept my signatures pretty low. I just don’t want to gouge the kids.”

The Hall of Fame remains special. For Fingers, respect for the Cooperstown shrine began in 1965, his first year in professional baseball after being signed out of Chaffey Junior College in Alta Loma, Calif., by the Kansas City Athletics. They became the Oakland A’s in 1968, the year Fingers made his major league debut.

Fingers’ first trip to Cooperstown came in 1965 when he was presented the American Legion Player of the Year Award, which he earned in 1964.

“I was pitching for the A’s minor league team in Leesburg, Fla., and had to get permission to go to Cooperstown,” he recalled.

“The late Bob Feller, a Hall of Famer, presented me with the award. That was right before the exhibition game they used to have (the Hall of Fame Game at Doubleday Field). The Yankees played the Phillies and I got to meet Mickey Mantle and Gene Mauch, who managed the Phillies. It was very exciting; then I had to go back to Leesburg.”

It would be perfect to say that the day inspired Fingers to want to become a Hall of Famer, but it didn’t happen. Not then.

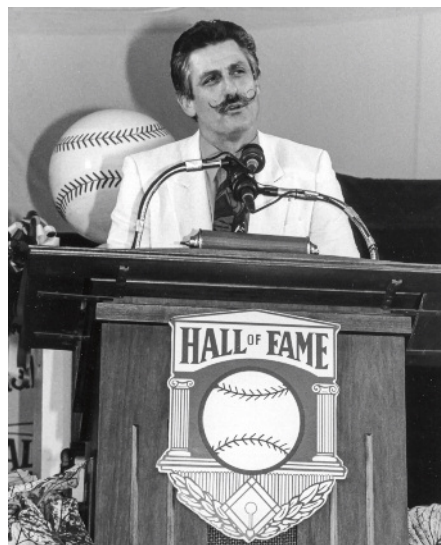
“When you’re playing, you don’t think about getting in the Hall of Fame,” he said. “Your goal is to get a World Series ring. I had 341 saves, but didn’t think much about the Hall of Fame until sportswriters started asking me about it.”

In his first year of eligibility, he came within 42 votes of making it, setting the stage for the 1992 ballot.

“Except for Hoyt Wilhelm (inducted in 1985), there were no true relief pitchers in the Hall of Fame,” Fingers reasoned. “And Wilhelm was both a reliever and a starter.

“But when I missed by [42] votes, I began to think maybe I would get those votes on the second try. I had a restaurant in San Diego called Trophy’s. I invited about 40 people; we blocked off a section of the restaurant. There were even TV crews there.

“So, at 7:30 p.m. I get the call. It was a mind blower. You watch major leaguers on TV when you’re growing up, players you idolize.



In 1992, Rollie Fingers became just the second relief pitcher elected to the Hall of Fame. He retired with 341 saves, the major league record at the time.

Now, all of a sudden, I’m with them. Growing up, Sandy Koufax was my idol. The night after the Induction Ceremony, I’m at the Hall of Famers’ private dinner and Sandy Koufax is sitting at my table across from me! It was surreal.

“For the last 15 years, seven or eight of us have sat at the same table; we each bring a really good bottle of wine. You want to be a fly on the wall when you’re in that room. You look around and there isn’t one guy who doesn’t deserve it. Yes, it’s a pretty exclusive club. It’s a tough nut to crack to make it. I was very proud to get in.”

Pausing, he added, “When you get to write ‘HOF’ after your signature, it means so much.”

Fingers, like many relievers, began his career as a starting pitcher, but had modest success. The late Dick Williams, a Hall of

Fame manager who was skipping the A’s, moved the struggling Fingers to the bullpen.

“I wasn’t making it as a starter; I was on my way back to the minors,” Fingers admitted. “Dick Williams said, ‘Anything happens in the ballgame from the sixth inning on, I’m going with you.’ I said, ‘OK,’ because it saved my career.

“So he stuck me in the bullpen, and I started pitching well and loved the idea of the pressure coming in late. I had halfway decent control and knew how to pitch.”

Part of an era when closers regularly worked multiple innings, Fingers totaled at least 100 innings in each of his first 10 full major league seasons. In 1976, he threw 134.2 innings, won 13 games and recorded 20 saves.

Fingers was part of three World Series champions with Oakland from 1972-74 and was the MVP of the 1974 Series, earning a win and two saves in four games. He won or saved eight of the A’s 12 World Series victories during their three-year reign.

“When he came in, you took a deep sigh of relief,” former A’s teammate Sal Bando once said. “You knew the game was in control.”

After the 1976 season, Fingers and his mustache went to San Diego, where he led the National League in saves during his first two seasons, including a career-high 37 in 1978.

He was on the move again – twice – following the 1980 season. Traded to St. Louis on Dec. 8, he was then dealt to Milwaukee four days later and enjoyed success with the Brewers until retiring in 1985.

He agrees the strike-shortened 1981 campaign was arguably his best season – at least from an awards standpoint. Appearing in just 47 games, Fingers earned 28 saves with a 1.04 earned-run average. He preserved 45 percent of the Brewers’ 62 victories and won both the American League MVP and Cy Young Award. He became just the sixth pitcher in MLB history to receive both honors, joining Don Newcombe, Sandy Koufax, Bob Gibson, Denny McLain and Vida Blue.

“That was probably my best year, but there was a little sour taste because of the strike,” Fingers said. “I was pitching well before it, and then for a month-and-a-half, we didn’t play baseball. My first game back after the strike was the All-Star Game in Cleveland on Aug. 9.”

The inactivity showed. Summoned for the eighth inning, Fingers was tagged with the loss when the Phillies’ Mike Schmidt blasted a

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two-run homer to center field to give the NL a 5-4 victory.

“The rest of the year I felt great,” he said. “It was one of those times when nothing went wrong. There was a lot of luck involved. I’d come in with the bases loaded, give up three line drives, but they would be right at guys.”

Because of the strike, the season was split: First-half winners vs. second-half winners in a best-of-five playoff. The Brewers were ousted in the Division Series by the Yankees, who went on to lose to the Dodgers in the World Series.

Former Commissioner Bud Selig owned the Brewers at the time and was instrumental in bringing Fingers to Milwaukee.

“He was unbelievably good,” Selig recalled. “He was so good in ’81. Opponents got just one earned run off him at County Stadium that season. He was just extraordinary. We had a great ball club.

“You know how nervous I used to get in the eighth and ninth innings? Well, having Rollie was just a pleasure when he went to the mound and I could relax.”

Fingers helped the Brewers make it to their first World Series the following year – saving 29 games and posting a 2.60 ERA – but a late-season arm injury kept him out of the Fall Classic. In fact, the injury required surgery and cost him the entire 1983 season.

“Not being able to pitch in the ’82 World Series was one of the lowest points of my career. They kept me on the Postseason roster, which was one thing I think they shouldn’t have done. If they had put me on the disabled list and activated Jamie Easterly, it would have helped. I just couldn’t throw.”

The Brewers lost the Series to St. Louis in seven games, prompting Selig to insist if Fingers had been healthy, the outcome would have been different.

“In ’82, he was brilliant, but got hurt right around Labor Day. I’m telling you – and even (winning Cardinals manager) Whitey Herzog would agree – if we had Rollie for the World Series, we win. We missed him.”

And now about the mustache.

Let Fingers tell the story:

“Reggie Jackson came to Spring Training early in 1972 with a mustache. At the time, there was no facial hair in the major leagues. He just wanted to tick off (Athletics owner) Charlie Finley. The players got on Reggie,



MIL STEWART JR./NATIONAL BASEBALL HALL OF FAME AND MUSEUM

Rollie Fingers (right) chats with fellow Hall of Famer Fergie Jenkins at the Hall of Fame Classic, the annual seven-inning legends game held at Doubleday Field in Cooperstown.

told him to shave it off, but he wouldn’t.

“Finally, four or five of us sitting around in the bullpen decided we’d all grow mustaches. We figured if we grew mustaches, Dick Williams would make us all shave them off. Now, we’re showing a lot of facial hair and nothing’s happening.

“Finley found out what was going on and dispatched a memo. He offered \$300 for everyone on the Opening Day roster who grew mustaches. Everybody started growing one. On Opening Day, he came into the clubhouse with 30 checks for \$300 each: 25 players, four coaches and the manager.

“Then we started playing very well. We won 12 of our first 16 games. As baseball players, we’re the most superstitious animals, so most of us kept the mustaches. The press ate it up and we even started growing long hair.”

Fingers said when the A’s headed to the 1972 World Series, he decided to try the handlebar, and as they continued winning series after series, was afraid to shave it.

“How could I cut it off?” he asked.

He did reveal he got so down once in Baltimore, he came close.

“I threw two pitches and got two losses on the same day and had the razor right there,” he said. “But I said, ‘No, I can’t do it.’”

Maybe Fingers should do a video on the care and grooming of baseball’s most famous mustache.

“If it took longer than 10 seconds, I’d probably cut it off,” he said with a laugh. “It’s kinda trained; I clip the ends. I groom it a little bit, maybe once a week when it gets shaggy.

“I’ve used the same wax the last 40-plus years. I heat up the wax, put it on when it’s soft and, within minutes, it dries hard so I can shape it.

“Really, it’s pretty simple. It’s not a chore to do. If it were, I wouldn’t do it.”

Hal Bodley, dean of American baseball writers, is correspondent emeritus for MLB.com. He has been covering Major League Baseball since 1958 and was a columnist and baseball editor for USA TODAY for 25 years.



Our Museum in Action

These ongoing projects are just a few of the ways the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum's mission is being supported today.

BASEBALLHALL.ORG/MUSEUMINACTION

WHAT WE'VE DONE TOGETHER

St. Louis Browns items

The St. Louis Browns Historical Society and Fan Club continues to help preserve baseball history in Cooperstown. In addition to a generous contribution to help us conserve Pete Gray's glove, the society and club have funded the digital preservation of the Bill Veeck photo collection.

Moe Berg papers

Thanks to generous gifts from Peter Frisbie, Peter Hand, Brian Landberg and Marideth Sandler, our collection of Morris "Moe" Berg papers will be digitally preserved. The collection contains a range of materials from 1921 to 1973, including correspondence, contracts, memorabilia and clippings.

This collection details the many facets of Berg, truly one of the most unique individuals in baseball history.

Stan Musial glove

Thanks to generous gifts from Randy Barthelman, Steven Bell, Stuart Director and Bruce Director, Lee Garza, Dan Glynn, Robert S. Govero and Warren Sherrill, a glove (B-2724.63) used by Stan Musial will receive much needed conservation work. This work will ensure that future generations of Museum visitors can enjoy this important artifact and continue to learn about "The Man" and all he accomplished on and off the diamond.

Photos to be digitally preserved

Thanks to a number of generous donors, photographs from our archive will be digitally preserved and added to our online digital collection, which you can browse at collection.baseballhall.org.

They include:

- **Ernie Banks** – Thanks to a gift from Ed and Jackie Balderson and Alvin G. Block
- **Bert Blyleven, Rollie Fingers, Goose Gossage, Trevor Hoffman and Tim Lincecum** – Thanks to a gift from Michael H. Gallichio
- **Kiki Cuyler** – Thanks to a gift from Clinton Rumble
- **Bob Gibson** – Thanks to a gift from Henry C. Niles
- **Addie Joss** – Thanks to a gift from Thomas Biblewski



These spikes, worn by Hall of Famer Buck Leonard (Class of 1972) during his historic career in the Negro Leagues, are in need of conservation work.

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- **Eddie Mathews** – Thanks to a gift from Kevin Crowley
- **Robin Roberts** – Thanks to a gift from John P. Monahan
- **Amos Rusie** – Thanks to a gift from Kevin Crowley and Steven Rothchild
- **Duke Snider** – Thanks to a gift from Steven Eigenberg
- **Lloyd Waner** – Thanks to a gift from Clinton Rumble

WHAT YOU CAN HELP US DO

Buck Leonard spikes

Shoes (B-361.72 a and b) worn by Walter “Buck” Leonard are in need of conservation work.

Leonard was one of the best pure hitters to play in the Negro Leagues and was a key contributor to the Homestead Grays dynasty of the 1930s and ’40s. From 1942-45, the Grays reached four consecutive Negro Leagues World Series, winning in 1943 and 1944.

The left-handed first baseman spent his entire 15-year career with the Grays, the longest term of service by a player with one team in Negro Leagues history, and played in a league-record 11 East-West All-Star Games from 1937 to 1945.

Available league statistics have Leonard batting .320 for his career with a .579 slugging percentage. The number of recorded home runs, runs scored and RBI are varied, but there is agreement that Leonard – elected to the Hall of Fame in 1972 – was at the top of his class.

Help the Museum care for and preserve these spikes from one of the game’s all-time greats.

Estimate for conservation to be performed by B.R. Howard and Associates: \$2,100

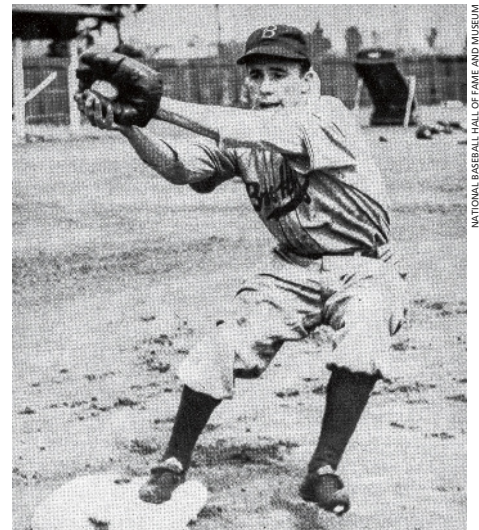
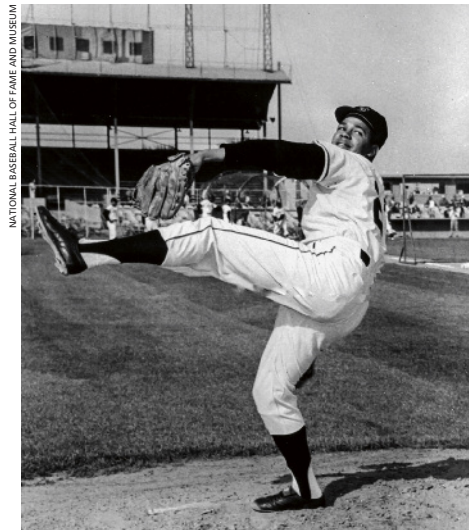
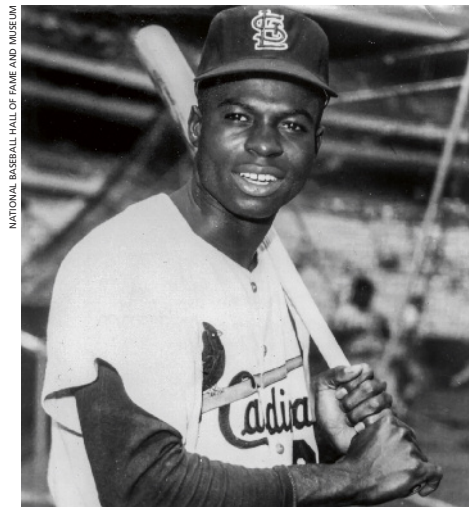
Digitally preserve historic photos of the Hall of Fame classes of 1983, 1984 and 1985

We need your help to continue our work to digitally preserve the Museum’s photo collection, which contains more than 300,000 images. You can help us to preserve the images of the classes of 1983, 1984 and 1985.

Cost to digitally preserve images of:

Class of 1983

Walter Alston (101 images):\$505



You can help digitally preserve photos of the Hall of Fame Classes of 1983-85, which include such legends as (clockwise from top left) Lou Brock, Harmon Killebrew, Pee Wee Reese and Juan Marichal.

George Kell (86 images):\$430
 Juan Marichal (59 images):\$295
 Brooks Robinson:FUNDED

Class of 1984

Luis Aparicio (170 images):\$850
 Don Drysdale (98 images):\$490
 Rick Ferrell (42 images):\$210

Harmon Killebrew (150 images):\$750
 Pee Wee Reese (81 images):\$425

Class of 1985

Lou Brock (144 images):\$760
 Enos Slaughter (85 images):\$425
 Arky Vaughan (59 images):\$295
 Hoyt Wilhelm (114 images):\$570

Additional projects online

We are grateful for all our donors and Museum Members for helping us to preserve baseball history. We have accomplished a lot together, but there is more to be done.

Explore additional projects, including artifacts, photographs and Library documents that are in need of conservation and preservation, at our website. 📄

baseballhall.org/museumination

For more information – or to make a donation of any amount toward one of the projects – visit baseballhall.org/museumination or contact our Development Team at (607) 547-0385 or development@baseballhall.org.

WORDS OF WISDOM

Instruction and encouragement go hand-in-hand in developing ball players.

BY BILLY WILLIAMS

Being a coach is rewarding. It's one way former players can give back to the game.

There are three coaches who played important roles in my career. We had Grady Hatton, an outstanding individual who managed me and Ron Santo down at Double-A San Antonio, where we were in the minor leagues with the Cubs. He prepared us for the next couple of steps, getting to the major leagues.

We also had one of the best right-handed hitters to tutor us when we got to Double-A in Rogers Hornsby. In the major leagues, we had Lew Fonseca, who worked for both the Cubs and Cincinnati.

My playing career ended after 18 years in the major leagues, mostly with the Chicago Cubs, and my last two years with the Oakland A's. I then worked for the Cubs as a roving hitting instructor, and later as a major league hitting coach. In 1984 and 1985, I was the major league hitting coach for the Oakland A's.

I retired in 1976 and took a year off from baseball. Then I got a call from Bob Kennedy, general manager of the Cubs, whose son, Terry, was a big league catcher. Bob realized I had done some work with Terry in the '60s, when he was 10, 11, 12 years old, at Wrigley Field, when Bob was the general manager. Bob remembered the things I did with Terry and he called me in 1978 and said: "I want you to go to the minor leagues and be our roving minor league hitting coach."

Being out of baseball for a year separated me from the major leagues. That was helpful



DOUG MOWILL/INTERNATIONAL BASEBALL HALL OF FAME AND MUSEUM

Following his 18-year career that led him to the Hall of Fame, Billy Williams coached for 18 years – and was also instrumental in helping 2019 Hall of Famer Lee Smith reach the majors.

because these young kids are just getting started. You can't teach major league hitting with young kids. You can't change a young hitter's style at that age. You have to let him play for a while.

You have to look at a kid and put yourself in his position, especially when he first signs. When he gets to Double-A, I think you can start talking about what to do to hit at the major league level. They've played a few years in the minor leagues and their hitting is a little more advanced. What I'd say is, "I'm not teaching you to hit at the minor leagues. I'm trying to get your thoughts to hitting at the major leagues."

I don't believe when people say "good hitters can't teach hitting," because Rod Carew and George Brett were good teachers. These

guys didn't change young kids' style, knowing everybody can't hit like a George Brett and a Rod Carew. Now, it may not work with Ted Williams, because he's on a different level – you had to be an advanced hitter to talk to him.

In 1979, my ex-teammate Randy Hundley was the Cubs' Double-A manager. I was the roving hitting coach – I wasn't a pitching coach – but I knew a lot of guys who were on the Double-A club because I'd run instructional league. That's when I had a meeting with Lee Smith, who was one of Randy's pitchers.

Randy and Lee had some words. Lee wanted to be a starter, but Randy had put him in relief and saw some good things happen. Back then, all the starters got the fanfare, and Lee wanted to start. Lee also had to separate himself from basketball, which was his first love.

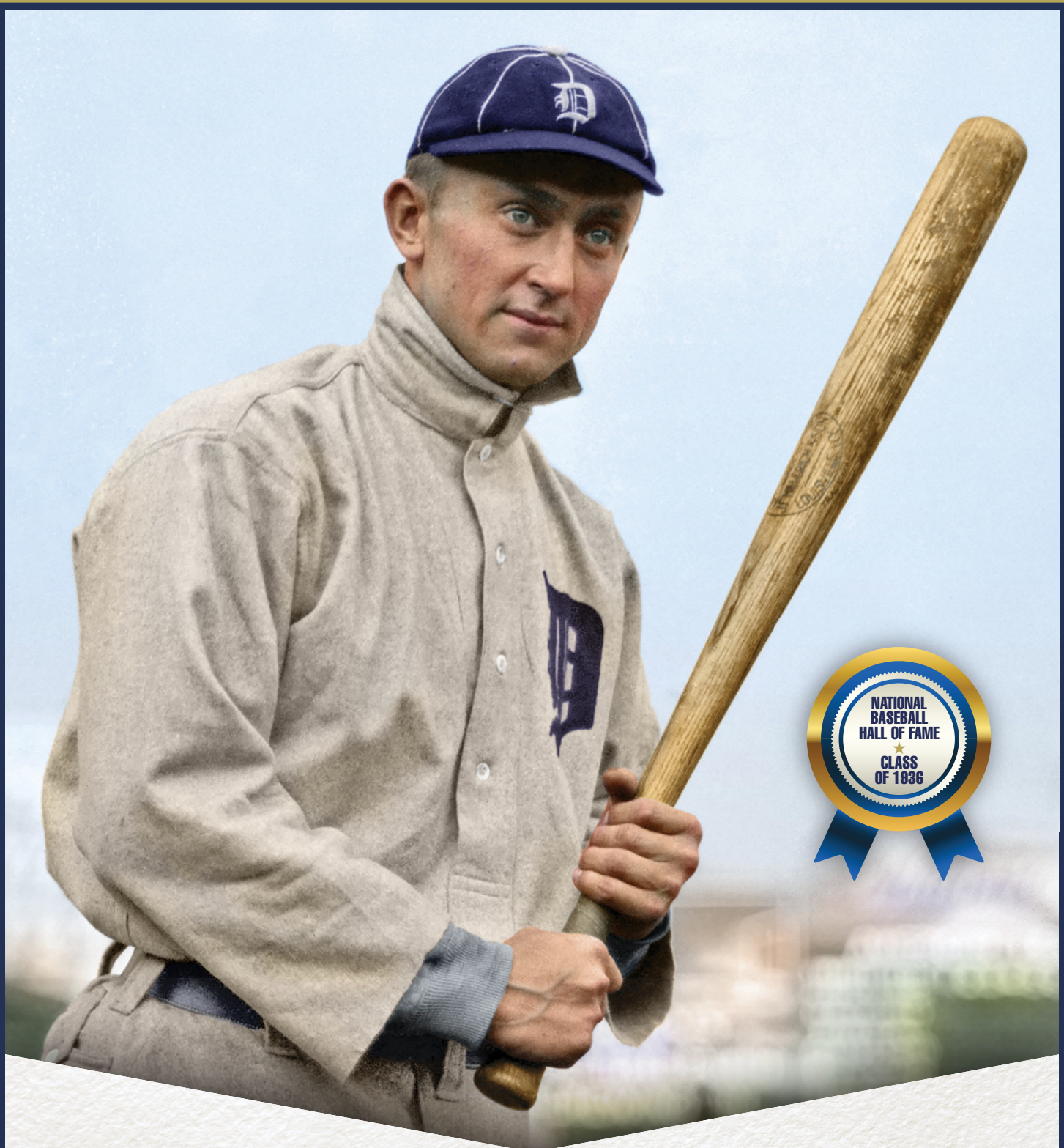
So I had some conversation with Lee and explained to him that relief pitchers are going to be a commodity in the future, and that he had a future in the game. I remember sitting in his car with him. He went on to convince himself that he could be a good relief pitcher. All of a sudden, things started to happen that were positive for him, and now he's in the Hall of Fame.

It really does show that being a coach is more than hitting or pitching. It's being a father figure, like Buck O'Neil was for me. It's giving advice and listening. These minor league players, they're a part of the organization. You want to help any way you can to make these individuals better. It was great that I could go down there and talk to Lee Smith and find out what his story was.

When I was talking to Lee, I thought of my own experience with Buck, coming down to Alabama to talk to me when I stepped away from the game as a minor leaguer. I could talk to Lee openly because I had gone through that situation.

It really is a great feeling to see those players grow, from the time they sign a minor league contract all the way to being successful at the major league level. ●

Billy Williams played 18 seasons with the Cubs and the Athletics and was elected to the Hall of Fame in 1987.



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AROUND COOPERSTOWN

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The estimated crowd of 55,000 fans at the July 21 *Induction Ceremony* featured thousands of Mariners supporters, many of whom made the trip from Seattle to Cooperstown to celebrate the induction of Edgar Martinez.